

Norway cuts oil output by 7.5%

OSLO (R) — Norway said Tuesday it will reduce its North Sea oil production by 7.5 per cent, about 80,000 barrels daily, as part of OPEC-led efforts to tighten the market and introduce higher prices. Oil and Energy Minister Arne Oeien told a press conference that Norway, not a member of the cartel, will cut output from its fields for the first six months of 1987, matching a decision by OPEC last month to reduce its total output by about 7.25 per cent. Mr. Oeien said the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) decision was a "significant step" towards increasing world oil prices. The Norwegian minister said oil companies responsible for producing the country's one million barrels of crude pumped daily would be consulted about the technical problems of implementing the cuts, to be introduced from Feb. 1.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جورديان تايمز مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

Murphy confers with Saudi leaders

RIYADH (R) — U.S. special envoy Richard Murphy had talks in Riyadh on the Iran-Iraq war and Washington's efforts to reactivate the Middle East peace process. Diplomats said Mr. Murphy, who arrived Monday after visits to Jordan, Egypt and Israel, wanted to sound out Saudi leaders on prospects for a Middle East settlement. Mr. Murphy, assistant secretary of state, met Defence Minister Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz after talks Monday night with King Fahd and Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faisal. The official Saudi Press Agency said he also discussed the Iran-Iraq war with Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Secretary-General Abdullah Bishara. The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. Mr. Murphy was expected to leave for Israel again.

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Israel jails 30 Al Najah students

AMMAN (Petra) — Israeli courts have lately sentenced 30 students from Al Najah University to different jail sentences, ordered the arrest of 14 others for a period of six months and the house arrest of eight others in relentless and systematic repressive measures directed against the Arab educational institution and its students and staff. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that during the current month, Israel ordered the closure of Al Najah University for seven days, and stormed the university premises under the pretext of searching for wanted students and anti-Israeli pamphlets.

Gonzalez, Mubarak hold talks

CAIRO (R) — Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez reiterated his country's support for an international Middle East peace conference after talks with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt. "Spain supports an international peace conference and a peaceful solution to the Middle East conflict," Mr. Gonzalez told reporters, echoing a similar statement made Monday at the start of a four-day visit to Egypt.

Jaruzelski meets Pope

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Polish leader Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, received with honours at the Vatican, held long private talks with Pope John Paul II. Jaruzelski said on his first official visit to the West since he imposed martial law in Poland in 1981 to crack down on the Solidarity free trade union. He met with the Pope for 70 minutes at the papal library.

Colombian envoy shot in Budapest

BUDAPEST (R) — A gunman shot and seriously wounded Colombia's ambassador to Hungary, the official Hungarian News Agency MTI said. MTI said Enrique Parejo Gonzalez was attacked by the unidentified gunman at the diplomat's Budapest residence. The ambassador was taken to hospital. MTI said.

Ethiopian air force crash kills 54

LONDON (R) — An Ethiopian air force plane crashed shortly after taking off from Asmara Tuesday, killing all 54 people on board, adding Ababa Radio reported. The radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said all those aboard were air force personnel.

French strikes wane

PARIS (R) — France's strike-hit public-sector industries headed for a slow return to normal Tuesday after weeks of transport disruptions and power blackouts that Finance Minister Edouard Balladur branded economically damaging. "Pursuing our policy is all the more essential as the current strikes will undoubtedly have effects on the economy," Mr. Balladur told reporters Monday.

Jordan, France agree on int'l Mideast conference; urge U.S. to take new initiative

PARIS (Agencies) — France Tuesday voiced its total and irrevocable support for the convening of an international conference under United Nations auspices to look into means for establishing a just and durable Middle East peace.

France's views were expressed by French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac following a round of talks he held with His Majesty King Hussein who is now on a three-day official visit to France.

"France supports the idea of an international conference without any reservation, and will work in cooperation with the other concerned parties for convening the projected conference as soon as possible," Mr. Chirac said in a statement to the press.

He said that his talks with the King covered Middle East affairs, with particular attention to the projected conference for the sake of achieving a just peace in the region.

Mr. Chirac told reporters that France and Jordan agreed to hold a preparatory meeting if needed.

"The essential problem is to persuade the United States that it is important for them to make an initiative which could, under conditions still to be decided, support this idea," Mr. Chirac said.

Both the United States and Israel favour direct talks between the Jewish state and its Arab neighbours rather than an international conference, which would involve the Soviet Union.

U.S. special envoy Richard Murphy, currently touring the Middle East, dismissed the preparatory meeting as "a not very attractive proposition."

Asked how the long-standing idea of an international conference could get off the ground in the face of opposition from the United States and Israel, Mr. Chirac said he and the King

believed Israel had not ruled out the proposition.

"The Americans should say exactly what their feeling is," Mr. Chirac said. "And the countries which support (the conference), particularly Jordan and France, must be able to tell their American allies why they should support it."

King Hussein held a round of official talks with French President Francois Mitterrand on Monday evening soon after his arrival in the French capital.

Following the talks, King Hussein told newsmen that they discussed Franco-Arab relations in general and Jordanian-French relations in particular, world issues and the Middle East problem.

The King said that France has a major role to play in Middle East affairs within the European Community (EC) especially with regards to the establishment of peace.

He said that the talks revealed similarity of views between France and Jordan on the subject of holding an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations to bring about peace to the region.

Also on Tuesday, King Hussein attended a special ceremony at Paris Municipality, hosted by Mr. Chirac, who is also Paris mayor, in honour of the King and Her Majesty Queen Noor.

In a speech on the occasion, King Hussein expressed his deep appreciation for the French prime minister and French people for hosting a Jordanian exhibition entitled "The King's Highway: 9000 years of Art in the Kingdom of Jordan" which opened in the French capital on Nov. 25.

The hosting of the exhibition in Paris, the King said, reflects France's keenness on maintaining the cultural links with the Arab World in general and Jordan in particular.

Describing Paris as the city of knowledge and culture, the King said Her Majesty Queen Noor and the residents of Amman share with him his deep admiration for the French capital and its inhabitants.

The King said that his visit to the municipality was like reviewing the history of France which is rich in culture, knowledge

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Iraq says Iranian invaders besieged

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq intensified air raids on Iranian towns Tuesday after a missile hit Baghdad, killing or wounding several of its residents, and said an Iranian force which crossed its southern borders last week was besieged.

A military spokesman said dozens of planes launched "destructive" raids on the western Iranian provincial capital of Kermanshah — now known as Bakhtar — "bringing down its houses on the heads of the spirits of evil."

Khorramabad, 250 kilometres from the border was also heavily attacked following raids earlier Tuesday on the west Iranian towns of Esfahan, Dezful and Qom, the spokesman said.

Iraqi anti-aircraft gunners shot down an Iranian warplane trying to attack residential areas at Kalar in the central sector of the 1,180-kilometre warfront, the Iraqi spokesman said. The pilot was captured, he added.

Other planes knocked out five Iranian anti-aircraft missile bases, three in Khorramshahr on the southern borders, one in the Gulf port of Bandar-Khomeini and the other at Bakhtar where a military spokesman said 30 attacking aircraft dropped their full load of explosives.

Dozens of Iraqi jets meanwhile raided Iranian troop concentrations close to the warfront, inflicting heavy losses

and sinking 40 enemy boats and 13 army vehicles, the spokesman said.

On the southern warfront, Baghdad Radio said Iraq had achieved "new victories" against the Iranians east of Basra, Iraq's second city with a population of one million. It said they were besieged east of the man-made Fish Lake, 10 kilometres from Basra.

"Our forces destroyed an Iranian elite force which attacked our positions west of the Fish Lake overnight," a field commander told the radio.

He said the Iranians thrust forward with tanks and armour

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Israeli jets again raid Palestinian positions in S. Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP) — Israeli warplanes bombed and rocketed Palestinian commando positions in eastern Lebanon near the Syrian border Tuesday in their third raid in five days. Police said two commandos were killed and seven wounded.

Four Israeli fighter-bombers made three lightning sorties as of 3:20 p.m. (1320 GMT) against commando positions near the eastern Bekaa Valley village of Yanta, police said.

The strikes targeted were about six kilometres south west of Lebanon's border with Syria, police said.

The raid was one of the closest by Israel to the borders of Syria since Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

Police said the blasted positions belonged to Col. Saad Moussa's Fateh faction, which broke away from Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat's mainline Fateh in 1983.

In Damascus, the Syrian capital, Fateh issued a statement saying the Israeli raid was aimed at one of their camps named after "Martyr Abdullah Sivan."

It said a guerrilla captain, Jaber Marzouk, was killed in the attack. Ambulances rushed to the area as Palestinian commando gunners fired at the raiding jets with Soviet-made 23mm anti-aircraft guns, local reporters said.

Commando defenders also launched several Soviet-made SA-7 Strella surface-to-air missiles at the Israeli planes, but no hits were reported, the reporters said.

In Tel Aviv, the Israeli military command said the targets were

Frenchman kidnapped as Waite pursues mission

BEIRUT (R) — Kidnappers struck again in Beirut Tuesday, seizing a French photographer as Britain's Terry Waite pursued his latest mission to free Western hostages in Lebanon.

The latest abduction brought to 19 the number of foreigners missing and feared kidnapped in the country.

Roger Aukue, 31, from Lille, France, was grabbed by two men, one brandishing a pistol and the other an assault rifle, as he stepped from the lift in his west Beirut apartment building, a colleague said.

No group immediately claimed responsibility.

Aukue, who has covered the Lebanon war since 1982, is a freelance with the Paris-based Gamma-Liaison Photo News Agency and a correspondent for Radio Television Luxembourg (RTL).

Paul Marchand, a French reporter for Radio Monte Carlo, said he was almost seized along with Aukue.

"I started screaming and started

to run away," he told Reuters. "One gunman fired in the air and as I ran I yelled to Roger, who was coming down in the lift, to escape. But he did not, and when he left the lift they took him."

Marchand, one of a handful of Western journalists still working in Muslim-controlled west Beirut, later took refuge in the French embassy there.

Terry Waite, lay aide to the Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie, appeared shocked when told of the latest kidnapping.

"I am very, very sorry to hear that," he told newsmen after a one-hour meeting with Druze militia chief Walid Junblatt.

"We will do our best to help Mr. Waite in his humanitarian mission. I think the last time he did an excellent job... I hope this time he will succeed," Mr. Junblatt declared.

The French Foreign Ministry said in a statement Tuesday that it strongly deplored the kidnapping of the French photographer in Beirut.

Syria pledges support for Arab 'camps war' efforts

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria told a special Arab League committee Tuesday it would help its mission to end Lebanon's "camps war" between pro-Syrian Shi'ite Muslim militiamen and Palestinians.

Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara told the committee "Syria will give all its help towards a ceasefire," Damascus Radio reported.

The statement followed two hours of discussions between Mr. Shara and high-ranking Arab delegates, including Jordanian Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib, on a possible withdrawal of fighters from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) from strategic positions

they won from the Shi'ite Amal militia in Maghdousheh, near Lebanon's southern port of Sidon.

Syria originally opposed formation of the committee, led by Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahim, at an emergency Arab League session called by the PLO last month.

Commandos loyal to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat have refused to withdraw from Maghdousheh until Amal lifts sieges of three Palestinian camps in Beirut and South Lebanon.

In Beirut, police said Amal militiamen ringed the Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh refugee camps again exchanged sporadic rocket fire with defending Palestinians.

Qadhafi: Gulf 'hysteria' must stop

CAIRO (AP) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi says the "mad war" between Iran and Iraq has created a mutual hysteria whose victims are the peoples of the two countries.

The comments reported Tuesday by Libya's official news agency JANA appeared to be an effort by Col. Qadhafi to distance himself from his previous strong support of Iran in the 6-year-old conflict.

"The Gulf war has become a mad war, the victims of this madness being the Iraqi and Iranian peoples," JANA quoted Col. Qadhafi as saying. "These two peoples are bound by neighbourhood and Islam. Reason should interfere to make an end to this madness."

The agency reported monitored in Cairo said Col. Qadhafi pledged Libya's "moral and material efforts to bring back reason to replace the hysteria that has hurt the Islamic and Arab values."

"This mutual hysteria has destroyed all bridges to go back and find out who has been the wronged or the wrong-doer, apart from the one who started this war, or even the reasons (for) which it has started."

Col. Qadhafi has supported Iran strongly since the war started in September 1980.

56 SWAPO rebels killed in South African raid

WINDHOEK, Namibia (South West Africa) (R) — Security forces in South African-ruled Namibia killed 56 nationalist guerrillas in a series of major clashes that spread across the border into neighbouring Angola, a military spokesman said Tuesday.

The South African-led force lost six of its men in the fighting during the past four days, bringing to nine the number of soldiers killed this year.

In the same period, 85 SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organisation) guerrillas, fighting to end South African rule of the disputed territory, had been killed, the spokesman said.

Sources close to the South African force said fighting began when guerrillas infiltrated across the border from base camps inside Angola.

South African-led troops pursued the guerrillas across the border into Angola, where further fighting took place, one source said.

The Angolan government has repeatedly accused South African



His Majesty King Hussein signs the register at the Monumnet for the Unknown Soldier during a visit to the Arch of Triumph in Paris Tuesday (Photo from TV by Yousef Al-Ailan)

Regent calls for united regional will to achieve peace in Gulf

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, stressed Tuesday that a united regional will on the Iran-Iraq war was the only means left to put an end to the Gulf dispute.

Addressing a group of senior Jordanian officials, economists and intellectuals, Prince Hassan said that Jordan's support for Iraq in its war with Iran was not based on the dispute's outcome, but rather, emanated from the Kingdom's courage and continuity in decision making and taking as well as its staunch belief in

pan-Arab unity. In a lecture he delivered on "Jordan and the International Arena," Prince Hassan said that pan-Arab work and unity was needed, more than ever; to counter the various dangers and challenges facing the nation, especially in the aftermath of the U.S. arms deal with Iran.

Prince Hassan told the audience, who gathered at the World Affairs Council (WAC) here, that the Arab countries should work towards strengthening their common economic and political concepts to

deepen the Arab relationship with members of the European Community (EC).

Due to the international tensions and polarisation tendencies, a dire need for working towards "logical and subjective" initiatives among the region's members — south-south dialogue — has become an issue of great importance.

During the lecture and the ensuing discussion, Prince Hassan reviewed Jordan's policies vis-a-vis the Arab, regional and

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Saudi oil minister to visit Moscow

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Hisham Nazer said Tuesday he would visit Moscow as part of a three-nation tour of oil-producing countries outside OPEC.

Mr. Nazer told the official Saudi Press Agency his tour would start Wednesday and comprise Egypt, the Soviet Union and Norway, in an effort to drum up support for higher oil prices.

He said the mandate for his trip to Moscow, as well as to Cairo and Oslo, came from Riwwan Lukman, the president of the

13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

But Arab diplomatic observers said that the Moscow stop would have wider political ramifications since it was the first by an independent Saudi government minister to the Communist state, with which Riyadh has been reluctant so far to have diplomatic contacts.

Only Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faisal was in Moscow in recent years but in his capacity as member of an Arab

League committee seeking to explain the merits of the Fahd plan for an Arab-Israeli settlement.

The committee of seven Arab foreign ministers visited capitals of all big powers to enlist backing for the Fahd plan after it was endorsed by the 1982 pan-Arab summit conference convened in Fez, Morocco.

The Arab diplomats said that several OPEC ministers would be campaigning for support in non-OPEC oil capitals to help fix oil prices at \$18 a barrel.

Group threatens OIC summit delegates

BEIRUT (AP) — An underground group, believed linked to Iran, has threatened to turn Kuwait into a "graveyard" for Muslim leaders who attend an Islamic summit conference scheduled for Jan. 26 in that Gulf state, a Lebanese newspaper reported Tuesday.

"Your participation in (the summit in) Kuwait reflects a decision and a (political) stand. We promise that it will not be long before Kuwait becomes a graveyard for many of you," said the Islamic Revolutionary Movement in a type-written statement delivered to the independent daily An Nahar

newspaper Monday. The newspaper published the statement Tuesday.

The Islamic Revolutionary Movement is one of several groups which claimed responsibility for the hijacking of an Iraqi Airways jetliner Dec. 25.

The statement urged Muslim leaders who have supported the convening of the meeting in Kuwait to "consider and think about the terrible consequences of your participation in the Kuwait summit."

Meanwhile, Pakistan's Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan discussed his efforts to persuade

Iran to attend the Islamic summit in talks Tuesday with Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faisal, officials in Riyadh said.

Iran has said it will not send a delegation to the meeting because of Kuwait's support for Baghdad in the Iran-Iraq war.

Mr. Yaqub Khan earlier told the official Saudi Press Agency he had failed to convince Tehran to attend the summit.

The officials said Mr. Yaqub Khan, who arrived in Riyadh from Abu Dhabi Monday night, was due to leave for home later Tuesday.

5 killed in fresh outbreak of violence in Pakistan

KARACHI (R) — Five people were killed and more than 100 injured in a fresh outbreak of ethnic violence Tuesday in two cities of Pakistan's southern province of Sind, police and doctors said.

Police said three people were killed in Hyderabad and two in Karachi during the day when rioters attacked police, a train, banks, post offices and other government buildings.

Authorities clamped an army-supervised curfew in Hyderabad, where hospital doctors said five people were killed.

Earlier police and doctors had said three people were killed and 53 injured in riots between rival ethnic groups and clashes with police in parts of the provincial capital, Karachi, and in Hyderabad, 175 kilometres to the east.

Fighting erupted in the Arabian Sea port of Karachi shortly after the army withdrew from areas where 28 people were injured and about 100 shops and houses set ablaze Monday, witnesses said.

Ethnic riots, which killed 186 people in the city last month flared again during protests over the gang-rape and murder of two young women.

The violence shattered an uneasy overnight calm imposed by the army.

Hospital doctors said they treated at least nine people stabbed in the fighting between Pashtuns from North West Frontier province and Mohajir immigrants from India.

Witnesses said rioters stoned vehicles, blocked roads and prevented firemen reaching buildings which they had set on fire.

Police opened fire after failing to disperse the rioters with tear gas, they said.

The fighting followed protests on Sunday night by mainly Mohajir residents after the discovery of the half-naked bodies of two young women near a graveyard.

The protesters complained of inadequate security for Karachi residents.

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McFarlane stirs new row over Reagan's Iran role

WASHINGTON (R) — President Ronald Reagan was caught up in a new row Tuesday over whether he approved U.S. arms shipments to Iran as early as August 1985, months before he said he did.

A U.S. television network Monday night quoted former Reagan aide Robert McFarlane as saying the president did approve the shipments and that Mr. McFarlane and other aides lied when they concocted a cover story that he did not.

NBC said Mr. McFarlane told the network he told the truth in recent congressional testimony that the president approved the 1985 arms sales.

But an administration official, noting Mr. McFarlane was Mr. Reagan's national security adviser at the time of the 1985 sales, suggested Mr. McFarlane was trying to protect himself.

"I think a whole lot of ass-covering is going on and I don't think it's the president's ass that's being covered," the official, who did not want to be identified, told Reuters.

The White House said repeatedly that no one currently there remembers Mr. Reagan approving Israeli shipments of U.S. arms to Iran in 1985.

But it said Mr. Reagan signed an order on Jan. 17, 1986, approving U.S. arms sales to Iran, convinced by that time that they would improve relations and free American hostages in Lebanon.

NBC quoted Mr. McFarlane as saying that he, Adm. John Poindexter and Lt. Col. Oliver North concocted the story that Mr. Reagan did not approve the 1985 Iran sales in order to prepare Mr. Reagan for a news conference on Nov. 19, 1986.

Adm. Poindexter was then Mr. McFarlane's successor as Mr. Reagan's national security adviser. Col. North was the National Security Council (NSC) aide Mr. Reagan later fired over the arms scandal in which profits were diverted to Nicaraguan rebels.

The Nov. 19 news conference was the one at which Mr. Reagan denied that a third country had been involved in the Iran sales. The White House quickly issued a correction saying one had, and

sources said the country was Israel.

Mr. Reagan, back at work part-time a week after prostate surgery, named a press secretary Monday and held a meeting for the first time with his special adviser on the Iran affair.

The new press secretary, Martin Fitzwater, now Vice-President George Bush's press secretary, will replace Larry Speakes who is to become an executive at the Merrill Lynch Investment firm.

Mr. Reagan also conferred privately for about three hours with former NATO Ambassador David Abshire, who is coordinating the White House response to the Iran-contra affair.

The United States has assured that the release last week of White House documents on the Iran arms scandal was not intended to place the blame on the Israelis, State Department officials have said.

The message was conveyed to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir by Ambassador Thomas Pickering last Friday, they said.

Mr. Pickering told Mr. Shamir that the documents were released because of President Reagan's desire to get all the facts out rather than having them emerge piecemeal, an official said.

Mr. Shamir was assured the release "was not an attempt to cast blame or aspersions on the Israelis," he said.

The documents seemed to conflict with Israeli official statements that Israel was merely responding to American requests for help in the arms deals and indicated that former Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres played a key role in advocating the sales.

A memorandum to Mr. Reagan from Adm. Poindexter said Mr. Peres sent a special emissary to Washington to propose seeking influence with moderate elements in Iran and winning release of American hostages being held by pro-Iran

groups in Lebanon. Mr. Shamir told Israeli Armed Forces Radio over the weekend that allegations made against Israel in the White House documents and in leaked versions of a Senate report were "baseless and simply not true."

Cabinet Secretary Eliakim Rubinstein told reporters after the weekly cabinet meeting Sunday that Israel would answer any U.S. questions on its role in the sale of arms to Iran.

He also repeated the government's denial of a reported Senate panel's findings that Israel was involved in the transfer of proceeds of the arms deal to U.S.-backed contra rebels in Nicaragua.

In another development, Senator David Boren, chairman of the intelligence committee, clamped new security restrictions on senators and staff members to prevent further leaks of sensitive information from the panel's files.

Sen. Boren repeated that a document reported last week by news organizations apparently was a preliminary draft report on the findings of the panel's inquiry.

"No documents will be checked out to members or staffers," Sen. Boren said. "I have further directed that no copies of documents or notes about documents be removed from the committee room so that they can be kept secured."

Meanwhile, the CBS Television Network reported Monday that Col. North told associates he had threatened to kill Iranian middleman Manucher Ghorbanifar if word of the secret arms deal leaked out.

The network quoted a frustrated North as telling the Iranian: "I'm going to give you a chance to become a martyr." It said Col. North and other U.S. officials distrusted Mr. Ghorbanifar, based on National Security Agency interception of his telephone calls to Iran in which he supposedly misrepresented arrangements made with U.S. officials.

The report said there was no evidence Col. North ever attempted to make carry out his threat.

Shipping leaders to discuss tanker attacks

LONDON (R) — World shipping industry leaders are to discuss with U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar the feasibility of establishing a U.N. naval patrol force to deter attacks on ships in the Gulf, the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) said Tuesday.

This will be among topics to be discussed when they meet in New York Wednesday on prospects for new diplomatic initiatives to end such attacks in the region, where the Iran-Iraq war has spilled over with strikes against tankers and other freighters.

Speaking before leaving for New York, ICS Chairman Sir Adrian Swire said new steps were needed to safeguard merchant ships in the Gulf.

"Our intention is to use these face-to-face talks with the U.N. secretary general to get that message across," he said.

If the only effective safeguard was naval protection then that should be provided, Swire said.

Otherwise, there was a real possibility of merchant ships taking their defence into their own hands, with the inevitable danger of an escalation of the situation, he added.

Swire said a delegation would also be asking for the U.N. Security Council urgently to discuss the legal position of merchant ships in the Gulf. There were doubts about the legality of exclusion zones which must be clarified to show fully the neutrality of merchant ships.

The delegation will comprise Swire, International Association of Independent Tanker Owners (Intertanko) Chairman James Rand, the Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO) President-designate Dr. Helmut Sohm and ICS Secretary General Chris Horrocks.

Yehoda Ben Seti and two relatives, Youssef and Ibrahim, were seized in Beirut in April 1985. The group said it killed Ibrahim in February last year and on Dec. 31 it said it had killed Youssef and two other Lebanese Jews.

The statement was accompanied by a black-and-white photograph of Ben Seti, who was bearded and looked haggard.

It repeated warnings to Israel "that we will retaliate for its attacks and terrorist acts against our people and areas and will execute more spies."

Israeli jets raided Palestinian positions in South Lebanon Monday, killing three commandos and wounding 13 people, in their third attack on Lebanon in nine days.

The statement said the bodies of Ben Seti and the three Jews killed in December would be delivered only if Israeli forces stopped all attacks on Lebanon and pulled out of a self-declared "security zone" in the South.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has vowed to avenge the killing of the Lebanese Jews in Beirut.

The Higher Jewish Community Council, representing more than 1,000 Jews living in Lebanon, had earlier this month condemned the killings and named three Jews who were still missing, including Ben Seti.

Qadhafi calls for 'Jihad' against Habre

LONDON (R) — Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qadhafi has called for a "holy war" (Jihad) against Chad President Hissene Habre whose troops are battling a Libyan-backed rebel coalition.

Col. Qadhafi issued the call in a speech to preachers of the World Islamic Call Movement from West Africa, according to a broadcast Monday by Libyan radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

He charged that Mr. Habre had split from his Muslim brothers and had "joined the Christians." Col. Qadhafi also said that Mr. Habre was an "Israeli."

"He has sought the aid of the Jews and the Christians," Col. Qadhafi said, according to the BBC monitoring.

Col. Qadhafi — who was addressing the Islamic preachers in Libya, by the Gulf of Sirte — said that it was "the French" who ruled in the Chad capital N'Djamena today.

"There is no Chadian government there at all in N'Djamena," he said.

Col. Qadhafi went on: "How can a Muslim ally himself with the crusaders — the Americans and the French — against his Muslim brothers and fight them? He has gone to the ranks of the Christians, the Crusaders, the ranks of the enemies of Islam and he therefore must be combated. Fighting him is a Jihad."

He accused the U.S., France, and Britain of harbouring a "historical" hatred of Muslims. "They are a traditional eternal enemy of the Muslims," he said.

Describing Islam as an international revolutionary force in which Muslims should have the credit of liberating Africa from colonialism, he told the West African Islamic preachers:

"When you return you should stage demonstrations against France because France is fighting Islam in Chad."

"France should be made to feel that if it attacked Libya and because Libya is a Muslim country, the Muslims should

attack France everywhere," Col. Qadhafi said, according to the monitoring of his speech, parts of which were poorly heard.

Chad's 20-year civil war has escalated in recent weeks following a major drive by Mr. Habre's forces to retake Libyan positions in the north.

Libya has acknowledged having only a few hundred troops in the north, but France says Libya has 8,000 men there.

The French have an air defence force of 1,200 men in Chad, a former colony, backing the Habre government.

France has declared a "red line" along the dividing 16th parallel beyond which it will not tolerate Libyan advances. But Paris has refused to send men and aircraft to the north to back Mr. Habre's drive to reconquer it from Libya and its allies.

Meanwhile Sudanese Foreign Minister Sharif Hindi met Libyan and Chadian diplomats in the search for a peaceful solution of

the conflict in Chad, the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) said.

It said Mr. Hindi, at the instructions of Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi, who enjoys good ties with both Libya and Chad, met the envoys separately and briefed them on Sudan's efforts to put an end to the current bloodshed in Chad.

A Foreign Ministry official told reporters Sudan hoped to find an acceptable formula that would help end the conflict.

SUNA quoted the Libyan envoy, without naming him, as saying that Mr. Hindi had briefed him on Sudan's efforts through the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) to seek a settlement.

In a clear reference to French involvement in Chad, the Libyan envoy said Sudan regarded the issue as an African issue that should be solved by Chadians and Africans despite attempts "to internationalise it and gain influence in the area."

Shi'ite group claims killing Lebanese Jew

BEIRUT (R) — A statement issued in the name of a Shi'ite Muslim group said it had executed a Lebanese Jew in retaliation for Israeli attacks on Lebanon and warned that it would kill more.

"We announce the execution of Israeli spy Yehoda Ben Seti who was a member of the Israeli Mossad (secret service)," said the statement delivered by the "Organisation of the Oppressed in the World" to Beirut's independent An Nahar newspaper Monday night.

Yehoda Ben Seti and two relatives, Youssef and Ibrahim, were seized in Beirut in April 1985. The group said it killed Ibrahim in February last year and on Dec. 31 it said it had killed Youssef and two other Lebanese Jews.

The statement was accompanied by a black-and-white photograph of Ben Seti, who was bearded and looked haggard.

It repeated warnings to Israel "that we will retaliate for its attacks and terrorist acts against our people and areas and will execute more spies."

Israeli jets raided Palestinian positions in South Lebanon Monday, killing three commandos and wounding 13 people, in their third attack on Lebanon in nine days.

The statement said the bodies of Ben Seti and the three Jews killed in December would be delivered only if Israeli forces stopped all attacks on Lebanon and pulled out of a self-declared "security zone" in the South.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has vowed to avenge the killing of the Lebanese Jews in Beirut.

The Higher Jewish Community Council, representing more than 1,000 Jews living in Lebanon, had earlier this month condemned the killings and named three Jews who were still missing, including Ben Seti.

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UNICEF cuts down staff in Gulf offices

ABU DHABI (AP) — The United Nations Children's Fund is cutting down its staff in the oil-rich Gulf region to reduce spending, its regional director said Tuesday.

Richard Reid, UNICEF regional director for the Middle East and North Africa who is on a visit to the United Arab Emirates, said that only skeleton staff would remain in "sub-offices" in the UAE capital of Abu Dhabi and in neighbouring Bahrain.

There will be a single main UNICEF office for the Gulf in Riyadh, capital of Saudi Arabia, instead of having full offices in several Gulf countries, Mr. Reid told the Associated Press.

He attributed the staff reduction to the "economising wave" spreading to all U.N. organisations and to the ability of the Gulf countries with high per-capita income to manage their own child health programmes.

"We (UNICEF) are the luckiest among the U.N. organisations where financial facilities are concerned, but we have to be aware of our budget and to have some reserves," he said.

He said there had been several questions about what UNICEF is doing in these Gulf states with high per capita income.

The budget allocated for the UNICEF regional office in the Middle East and North Africa is \$68 million and it was exhausted last year, leaving no reserves, he said.

Mr. Reid said he was also passing "some good news" to officials in the Gulf, reporting to them that they had become the world leaders in average immunisation for children.

He said the average child immunisation rate in the Gulf states was now more than 70 per cent, or higher than that of the United Kingdom, where it was about 50 per cent.

Ershad in Jakarta to discuss Gulf war

JAKARTA (R) — Bangladesh President Hossain Mohammad Ershad arrived in Indonesia Tuesday planning a new initiative between the world's two most populous Muslim countries to end the bloody and protracted Iran-Iraq Gulf war.

President Suharto welcomed Gen. Ershad at Jakarta's military airport where the Bangladeshi leader received a 21-gun salute.

A senior Bangladeshi foreign ministry official told Reuters in Dhaka that Gen. Ershad and President Suharto would exchange

change ideas on ways of ending the seven-year-old Gulf war.

The official said that, as a first step, they would try to persuade Iran to attend an Islamic summit meeting due to open in Kuwait on Jan. 26.

Tehran has refused to attend, accusing Kuwait of backing Iraq in the war, and wants the venue shifted to Pakistan.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmadja said last week he was planning to visit Iran, which last week mounted a big offensive in southern Iraq,

but he declined to name a date or give details of his visit.

King Hussein on a visit to Indonesia last year urged Jakarta to play a bigger role in helping to end the bloodshed.

In Riyadh, the official Saudi press agency quoted visiting Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan as saying he had failed in a bid to persuade Iran to attend the Kuwait meeting.

Mr. Yaqub Khan arrived in Riyadh Monday night from a visit to Tehran.

Egypt plans nuclear plant

CAIRO (R) — Egypt intends to go ahead with plans to build its first nuclear power plant before the end of the century, Electricity Minister Maher Abaza has said.

The project had been delayed while the government awaited a report from the International Atomic Energy Agency on the disaster at the Soviet Chernobyl nuclear power plant last April.

Mr. Abaza told parliament the report had been received and the plan to build a 1,000-megawatt reactor would be submitted to the cabinet for approval.

"The Chernobyl accident has not affected nuclear programmes in any other country, and even the Soviet Union is going ahead with

its own programme," Mr. Abaza said.

Egypt had hoped to build eight nuclear power plants over the next 20 years to meet energy demand, expected to treble 18,000 megawatts by the end of the century. But the tender was cut back to only one due to a lack of cash.

The three main bidders for the contract worth more than \$1 billion, Kraftwerk Union of West Germany, the U.S. Westinghouse Corporation and a consortium led by Fromatome of France, were asked last March to submit lower bids after the slide in world oil prices.

Italy arrests Lebanese with explosives

MILAN (R) — Italian police said Tuesday they had arrested a 26-year-old Lebanese man at Milan Airport carrying 11 kilos (24.2 pounds) of plastic explosives in his luggage.

They said the man, named as Bakhr Khodr, arrived in Milan on a flight from Beirut via Geneva Monday evening and had successfully passed through customs controls when he was stopped by police who were suspicious about his hand luggage.

The explosives were hidden inside two picture frames Khodr was carrying as hand luggage.

Khaddam begins talks with Chinese leaders

PEKING (R) — Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam on Tuesday began talks with Chinese leaders in Peking.

Mr. Khaddam, the first top Syrian official here for 31 years, was given an official welcoming ceremony in freezing temperatures Tuesday morning outside the Great Hall of the People by China's Vice-Premier Wan Li.

The two men went inside the hall for courtesy talks prior to discussions between Mr. Khaddam and Premier Zhao Ziyang.

Mr. Khaddam had come instead of Syrian President Hafez Al

Assad who twice declined invitations from Peking on the grounds of ill-health and a reluctance to travel, one Arab diplomat said.

A member of the Syrian delegation, who declined to be named, said Mr. Khaddam would meet President Li Xiannian and top leader Deng Xiaoping, but not Communist Party chief Hu Yaobang.

"Syria has good relations with all socialist countries, including China. Our relations with China have always been good and contacts between us frequent. Our two countries share the same viewpoint toward Israel," he said.

Israeli settlers get special tags

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — The military command in the West Bank had designed a special sticker for the cars of Jewish settlers in the occupied Arab territories, but the settlers have mixed feelings about them, Israel TV has reported.

The sticker, designed in Ofra, bears the letters Yod, Shin, Ayin, standing for West Bank and Gaza, in Hebrew.

The army told the TV reporter that the stickers are meant to make it easy for soldiers to distinguish cars belonging to local Jews in roadblocks, and to help soldiers handling a ride distinguish safe cars.

UNRWA chief visits Lebanon

VIENNA (Agencies) — UNRWA Commissioner-General Giorgio Giacomelli has expressed sorrow for all the people of Lebanon who are suffering from the 11-year-old civil war.

"I'm equally sorry for all people in Lebanon who suffer. UNRWA's mandate is to assist one group of people, but it is obvious that presently other groups are also in dire need of assistance. I strongly recommend that an initiative be taken to alleviate the sufferings of all destitute people in Lebanon," Mr. Giacomelli said.

He was speaking after a three-day visit to Lebanon during which he met a number of prominent Lebanese. UNRWA is the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

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TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel. 73111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:45 Cartoons
16:10 Children's programme
16:50 Soccer
18:30 Arabic series
19:20 Local programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Message from Cairo
20:40 Arabic series
21:30 Wrestling
23:00 News in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 'Des chiffres et des lettres'
18:20 L'école des sciences
19:00 News in French
19:15 Aujourd'hui en Jordanie
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 News in English
21:30 Documentary: 'The Africans'
22:00 News in English
22:20 Bestseller: 'Aspen'

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
& partly on 9500 KHz. SW
Tel. 77411-19

07:30 Light Music
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:45 Morning Show Contd.
11:00 Country Music
11:30 Songs from Movies
12:00 News Summary
12:45 Guide to the Galaxy
12:50 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:15 Instrumentals
16:15 Your Health
16:30 Concert Hour
16:40 News Summary
16:45 Instrumentals
17:00 Old Favorites
17:30 Jordan Weekly
17:35 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Women in Music Masters and Music

18:30 Music
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Show Contd.
21:25 News Summary
22:00 Evening Show Continued

23:00 News Summary
23:05 Evening Show Continued
23:57 News Headlines
24:00 Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE
639, 720, 1323 KHz

06:00 Newscast 06:30 No Laughing Matter 06:40 Book Choice 06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial News 07:00 World News 07:05 News About News Summary 07:30 Report on Religion 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newscast 08:30 Meridian 09:00 World News 24 Hours News Summary 09:30 Development '87 10:00 News 10:05 Reflections 10:15 Classical Record Review 10:30 Just A Minute 10:40 News Summary 10:45 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News; Look Ahead 11:45 Patrick Marbury's Music Book 12:00 News Summary; Omnibus 12:20 Jazz Scene 13:00 World News 13:05 News About Britain 13:15 No Laughing Matter 13:25 A Letter from Wales 13:30 Meridian 14:00 Radio Newscast 14:15 Minutes in Minutes 14:40 The Faming World 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 24 Hour: News Summary 15:30 Development '87 16:00 News Summary; Outlook 16:05 Report on Religion 17:00 Radio Newscast 17:15 A Future for the Past 17:30 King Street Journal 18:00 World News Summary 18:15 Sports Salad 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:05 A Letter from Wales 19:15 Body Talk 19:30 News Ideas 19:45 World News Summary 20:00 News Roundup 20:05 Minutes 20:30 Maritime 20:40 News Summary 21:00 Outlook 21:30 Sport Market Report 21:45 Good Books 22:00 World News

VOICE OF AMERICA
NW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 15210 Hz

05:00 News 05:10 Newscast 05:30 VOA Morning 06:00 News 06:30 Newscast 06:30 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 News 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newscast 08:30 VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 Newscast 09:30 VOA Morning 09:57 News Summary 17:00 News 17:10 Newscast 17:30 Music USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 News in English News & Features 19:00 News 19:10 News Summary 19:30 Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English News & Features 21:00 News 21:10 Newscast 21:30 News 21:40 News Summary & Editorial 22:15 Music USA 22:30 News 23:00 World Report

Ministerial committee reviews labour recruitment proposal

AMMAN (Petra) — A proposed corporation for recruiting Jordanians to take up employment in Arab labour markets was among the subjects discussed during a meeting held Tuesday by a ministerial committee entrusted with handling the issue of unemployment in Jordan.

The committee, meeting under the chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahhab Al Majali, reviewed a number of recommendations including one designed to offer management training as proposed by the Civil Service Commission (CSC). The scheme envisages training 5,000 people during 1987, according to

Mr. Ali Hindawi who is an advisor at the prime minister's office and a member of the committee.

He said that the committee will hold another meeting on Thursday to look into proposals and recommendations submitted by different sub-committees.

On the committee are the ministers of labour, education, public works, industry and trade, finance, higher education, health and planning as well as the presidents of Mu'ta University, Yarmouk University and the University of Science and Technology in addition to the CSC director, Mr. Hindawi and the director of the Institute of Public Administration.

Haj Hassan inaugurates training centre at Sahab

AMMAN (Petra) — A vocational training centre, built at Sahab Industrial City with help from the European Economic Community, was inaugurated on Tuesday with a ceremony held under the patronage of Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan.

The European Community donated JD 200,000 towards the JD 600,000 project with the remainder of the cost covered through a loan from the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) and another from the Social Security Corporation (SSC). The European Community's contribution went towards the purchase of equipment and machines installed in the training centre, according to the centre's director.

He said that the training centre will absorb 450 trainees annually. The trainees will be offered three-year courses in air conditioning, refrigeration, welding, plumbing, electrical trades, general auto maintenance, carpentry, interior decoration and blacksmithing, according to the director.

He said that the centre's programmes have been worked out in a manner to conform with a general plan put forward by the Ministry of Labour to recruit and train skilled people needed for different trades in the local market.

The centre, he said, will also be offering training to 440 apprentices who will be absorbed by different industrial businesses already open in the Sahab Industrial City. It will also provide advanced training courses for 39 of those already employed to help improve the quality of their production, he continued.

According to the director, the centre now employs 58 members of staff, 43 of whom are technicians, and all are Jordanians.

After the opening ceremony, the minister toured the different parts of the vocational centre and was briefed on its programmes.

The minister was told that the European Community will be supplying experts to help in the training process at the centre, and that the community has offered to help finance two other training centres in Zarqa and Ma'an.

With the expected contributions, the European Community will have offered a total of JD 1 million in technical aid, expertise and equipment to Jordan's vocational training programme undertaken by the Ministry of Labour and Social Development.

Belgian Ambassador to Jordan Guido Vansina and European Community representative in Amman Romano Lantini were among the dignitaries attending the inauguration ceremony.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, visits U.N. offices in Amman on Tuesday, and is briefed on U.N. activities in Jordan (Petra photo)

Secondary students begin mid-year general exam

AMMAN (J.T.) — Approximately 51,120 tawjihi students on Tuesday began taking the Ministry of Education's mid-year general secondary examinations and ministry sources said that the examinations are being held in 657 halls around the country.

The sources said that 30,444 students are sitting for the literary stream examination, 14,131 for the scientific stream, 3,898 for the commercial stream, 96 for the agricultural stream, 2,079 for the industrial stream, 338 for the nursing stream, 109 for the hotel management stream, and 29 for the postal stream.

The ministry's secretary general, Dr. Ahmad Al Bashairah, accompanied by

directors of education and other ministry officials, made an inspection tour to a number of examination halls and was assured that the examination process was going on smoothly and according to schedule.

Ministry sources said that the marking of the students' examination papers would commence immediately after the completion of the week-long examination session, and the results will take about a month to be released.

The tawjihi examinations started on the second day after the closure of schools, community colleges and universities for the mid-year holiday which will last until Jan. 31.

GUVS support for charities amounts to JD 754,839 in 1986

AMMAN (J.T.) — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) in Jordan last year gave away JD 754,839 to charitable and voluntary societies in the Kingdom to support their activities and programmes, according to a GUVS statement issued on Tuesday.

The statement said that JD 188,912 went to societies in the Amman region, JD 76,441 to those in Irbid, JD 39,385 to Zarqa, JD 31,929 to Balqa, JD 22,494 to Karak, JD 41,656 to Ma'an, JD 13,301 to Mafrqa and JD 9,257 to societies in the Tafleeh region.

In addition, the statement said, JD 188,000 went to societies in the Jerusalem area of the West Bank, JD 206,000 to Nablus, JD 43,000 to Hebron, and JD 215,980 was allocated for different projects supervised by the union.

Last month GUVS announced that it would spend JD 1.2 million in 1987 on projects which will benefit charitable and voluntary

societies in both the East and West Banks of Jordan.

A GUVS spokesman said that projects to be implemented by the union and charitable societies in the Kingdom were discussed during a general meeting by the GUVS executive council. Projects to be implemented include the establishment of rehabilitation centre for persons with multi handicaps, the cancer centre at the University of Jordan, a survey of handicapped persons in the West Bank and financial and in-kind assistance to charitable societies in the East and West Banks of Jordan.

In addition, GUVS will supply furniture and toys for children and other requirements for children's centres established by charitable societies in the Jerusalem, Nablus, and Hebron areas of the West Bank, the spokesman added.

The union, he said, will this year install a computerised system to help promote its work and activities.

Ministry draws on experience from first campaign for new anti-smoking drive

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A second anti-smoking campaign, to be held at the beginning of Ramadan, is under consideration by the Ministry of Health, according to Dr. Mohammad Bashir Shriem, director of the Health Education section at the Ministry of Health. Dr. Shriem added that the experiences gained from the previous campaign will be used to make the new effort a success.

From Sept. 29 until Oct. 9, the first anti-smoking campaign was held in Jordan. It was organised throughout the Kingdom by the Ministry of Health, said Dr. Suleiman Qubain, director of Primary Health Care at the Ministry of Health. During this limited period, Pamphlets were distributed and seminars were held to warn people of the dangers of smoking. There were also two television spots daily during the two weeks and these described the hazards of smoking, said Dr. Qubain.

He added: "The campaign did not end on Oct. 9 because health education is a continuous process as it aims to change unhealthy human behaviour to healthy behaviour and this takes a long time." According to Dr. Shriem, during the past three months, the Ministry of Health has placed anti-smoking posters in both private and public schools and hospitals throughout the Kingdom as well as at the Jordan Medical Association, the Jordan Pharmaceutical Association and the headquarters of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

Pamphlets

He added that the distribution of pamphlets cautioning about the dangers of smoking has been

limited to students. The initial goal to distribute pamphlets to school directors or to the directorate of teaching in governorates was to provide teachers with the required knowledge needed to educate their students and this "is generally being fulfilled," said Dr. Shriem.

Additionally, anti-smoking seminars were held at the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University in cooperation with the Ministry of Health. And, in a related move, the minister of health signed a new law prohibiting smoking in hospitals, said Dr. Shriem.

Great impact on children.

Although no evaluation of the first campaign has taken place, Dr. Shriem made some observations: "The strongest impact seems to have been on children. We have heard of several stories whereby children have been encouraging their parents not to smoke for health reasons, and especially if their mother is pregnant." The effect on children has served two purposes, continued Dr. Shriem. It has satisfied one of the aims of the campaign which was to prevent, through education, those who do not smoke from starting the habit, and it has also encouraged an aversion towards cigarettes.

"Therefore in the future we plan to develop new methods directed towards children," he continued. In preparing for the second anti-smoking campaign, Dr. Shriem added that the ministry of health would be more specific. "The first campaign was general. This time we will be more specific in target groups, scopes of health education activities, and studies," he explained.

Dr. Shriem also observed that several editorials and articles have

appeared attacking smoking. He added that the National Jordanian Anti-Smoking Society has participated in creating a greater public awareness about smoking and its dangers through the mass media. The president of the society, Dr. Zubair Malhas, said that the society could be more active and that he hopes it to be more involved in the future. Commenting on the first anti-smoking campaign, Dr. Malhas, a former minister of health, said: "The campaign is an excellent beginning. Spasmotic campaigns may alert the public to the problem, but the most important thing is to continue a long-term campaign." He said that this would include extensive work through the media and daily exposure about the effects of tobacco on health.

Cigarette sales

The hazards of smoking became more widely known after the Ministry of Health and an international team found smoking to be a major health problem in the Kingdom. Mr. Ali Sa'd, managing director of the Jordanian Tobacco and Cigarette Corporation Limited, said that over the last 20 years cigarette sales in Jordan have been achieving an average annual increase of six to seven per cent. He added that by the end of August 1985, the sales registered in real terms, amounted to around seven to eight per cent.

It has still not been established whether the first campaign had any effect on cigarette sales in Jordan and "the ministry does not have any figures of cigarette sales in the past three months," said Dr. Shriem. However, the ministry hopes to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the smoking situation in Jordan by the end of this year.

Regent visits U.N. offices, to review current projects

Crown Prince briefed on wide variety of U.N.-backed programmes in social and economic sectors

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Tuesday visited the United Nations offices in Amman accompanied by Minister of Planning Taher Kanaan and Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin and other senior government officials.

He was received by the U.N. system's resident coordinator and (UNDP) resident representative, Mr. Sarfraz Khan Malik. The Crown Prince met the principal staff members of the UNDP, and other U.N. organisations and was briefed on their activities in Jordan.

He was briefed by Mr. Malik on current UNDP-assisted projects in Jordan, which among others, include UNDP assistance for vocational training and upgrading of educational system in schools, of over \$2 million, assistance to the Royal Scientific Society for the utilisation of solar and wind energy, regional development

planning, assistance in civil aviation and telecommunication training and assistance for computerised cadastral data system for the Lands and Surveys Department. He was also informed about the new draft country programme proposals covering UNDP grant assistance of \$8.25 million and, in addition, a government contribution of \$2 million for the programme, according to a UNDP press release.

The Crown Prince took special interest in activities relating to regional planning and technical cooperation in developing countries. He also expressed his satisfaction on initiating a project for the transfer of know-how/knowledge through expatriate nationals (TOKEN) in Jordan.

Department issues 17,000 new passports

AMMAN (Petra) — The Passports Department has started issuing new passports, which are different from the older ones in colour and format. The new documents are being issued to Jordanians and also to Gazans who have been long-term residents in the East Bank of Jordan, Mr. Radwan Al Qasem, the acting director of the department, announced on Tuesday.

He said that his department has already issued 17,000 new passports to Jordanians since the new process started on Dec. 20, 1986 and 9,500 passports to Gazans since last Sunday.

The new passport, he said, has a green cover, and its pages have rainbow colours with letters symbolising the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Special typewriters have been imported to type out names and other information on the new passports, Mr. Qasem added.

Five-year passports

The Passports Department is now issuing five-year passports to all Jordanians of the two banks and these documents are renewable for another five years. The department is charging JD 20 in fees for every passport, but those issued to Gazans are only valid for three years, Mr. Qasem pointed out.

He said that in addition, the department issues temporary passports to those wishing to visit the occupied West Bank and also special permits for residents of Palestinian land occupied since 1948 wishing to perform the annual pilgrimage to Mecca.

Last year, Mr. Qasem said, the passports department issued 33,209 passports to people of all categories and collected JD 5,403,836 in fees.

Branches

According to Mr. Qasem, Passport Department branches in Irbid, Zarqa, Karak, Ma'an, Aqaba and Salt are authorised to issue passports to all citizens without referring papers to the central department in Amman. He said that his department intends to open new branches in other areas to further facilitate the department's work.

At present, Mr. Qasem continued, the Passports Department is under-taking a study for introducing a computer to organise the operations of registration and indexing files.

on the World Food Programme's (WFP) three on-going projects pertaining to range management, feeding of primary school children and agricultural development of highland areas, the latter involving WFP assistance of over \$17 million.

The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT) activities pertaining to a demonstration project on low-cost sanitation techniques in rural settlements in the Madaba area and up-grading the Shallala settlement in Aqaba were explained to Prince Hassan during his visit.

The Crown Prince stressed the need for establishing links for economic cooperation, specific to the region.

The Crown Prince was also briefed on UNDP's assistance to the West Bank and Gaza Strip and was informed about an additional allocation of \$4 million from the special programme reserve during 1986, the press release said.

Regent visits army headquarters

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday called at the General Army Headquarters in Amman. He met there with Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb. Also on Tuesday Prince Hassan paid a visit to the Engineering Company which is owned by the Royal Scientific Society in conjunction with the Arab Potash Company, the Jordan Phosphates Mines Company, the Social Security Corporation and the Pension Fund.

CONGRATULATIONS ON SAFE RETURN

Mr. Night and all employees of the MEDCO establishment for maintenance and services at the Queen Alia International Airport offer their heartfelt congratulations to their manager



Mr. Tawfiq Mohammad Abu Khajeil

on his safe return home.

Welcome back Abu Bassam

JPMC assessing study on Shidieh phosphate mine

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A feasibility study on the Shidieh phosphate mines project, which is targeted to boost the mine's total annual production to 9 million tonnes by the turn of the century, has been finalised and work on the site will start within the next month, according to the project's director general Sameh Madani.

Mr. Madani said the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) has floated tenders for the installation of high voltage cables to the site as part of the project's infrastructure. A 27-kilometre asphalted road will also be built to link Al Mudawarna with Ma'an, some 260 kilometres south of Amman, Mr. Madani added.

Actual work on the long-term project, which aims at tripling the annual production of 3 million in 1991 to 9 million, is expected to start with the next two months after the Jordan Phosphates Mines Company (JPMC) has conducted an assessment on the feasibility study, Mr. Madani told the Jordan Times on Monday.

In an earlier interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Madani defined the project's goal as being to optimise the Shidieh's rock phosphate with the latest technical ways and at the lowest possible cost. The mine is estimated to have 100 years of reserves according to geological experts. Infrastructural plans for the project are currently underway.

Mr. Madani explained that the project underwent a three-phase plan to pave the way for its establishment:

A preliminary period which ended in mid-1984 to study the mine's potential of rock phosphates, possibilities for the production of fertilisers, as well as transportation and storage means available at Aqaba port.

— the project's feasibility study which has almost been completed and which included field work on drilling out samples and testing them, and experimenting on means to raise the raw material's potentials for chemical industries, to prepare the project's engineering designs and tender

documents for implementing the project. The JPMC is currently preparing the project's working plans.

The mines are situated in the southern region of Jordan, 60 kilometres from Ma'an. An executive committee for the project, under the chairmanship of Minister of Trade and Industry Rajai Muesher, has been following a clear cut policy for the project and has made maximum use of Jordanian expertise in areas related to mining, phosphate marketing, long-term planning and infrastructure related works, he continued.

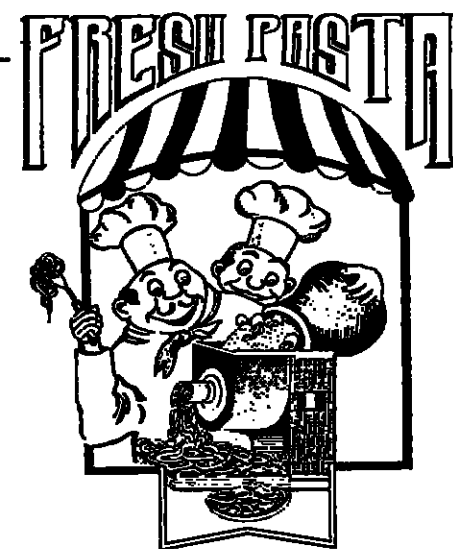
Railway

According to Mr. Madani, the committee has started to market the project to various Arab and international funds and to brief them on the project's goals. He said that the project's preliminary study on transport concluded that a railway would be the best method of transporting the mineral and he added that the proposed Shidieh-Aqaba railway could form the nucleus of a national line to link the country's south with the north and to other neighbouring countries.

He explained that the storage facilities to be erected at Aqaba will be used to store the imports of all materials needed for the final phosphate products and its derivatives and to export the mineral.

He said that after extensive studies to locate a housing site for the mine workers, the project's committee in principle decided to erect all housing facilities adjacent to the mines. Having all the project's workers living next to the site means that the production line will be operational on a 20-hour basis with three daily shifts, Mr. Madani said.

He said that studies on providing electricity to the site and making available potential subterranean water were also completed. Mr. Madani expects that the project would create around 2,200 job opportunities for workers in areas related to the project's technical, chemical and supervision aspects, as well as transportation, storage, handling and marketing.



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One for the road

NOW that the Greater Amman Municipal Council has been formed, there is a greater chance that one or more of its 51 members will fall into one or more of the large number of ditches and potholes that have been appearing and increasing on the streets of our capital.

Just before the formation of the council at the beginning of the new year, it was reported by news agencies that a Chinese woman on her bicycle had fallen into a hole in a Peking road which had no warning signs. The woman, who was hospitalised after the "accident," sued the government for the mishap and won. The Peking Municipal authorities, who had neglected their streets and paid no attention to what might happen to their citizens as a result, paid for the inconvenience they had caused the woman.

But it is not only in Peking that open, neglected ditches can be found in the streets. In fact, these have become a common sight in Amman (not to mention the rest of Jordan as well).

People here love to complain about almost everything, but the most often-heard complaint concerns the condition of roads that are capable of wrecking not only vehicles, but also the physical and mental well-being of humans.

"Ziph" is the word that we use in Jordan for "asphalt, the material that should cover our roads; but we also use the word to describe anything that is not going well. And because our roads are in such a bad condition, the favourite joke of the pessimists among us has become that which says "everything is 'ziph' except the roads."

The mayor of Amman, who incidentally loves to hear and crack jokes himself, would no doubt take the hint and understand the message contained in this one-liner.

We fully trust that under Mayor Rawabdeh's capable stewardship, the new Amman Council will do everything possible to improve the condition of the capital's roads. But if it does not do something concrete as soon as possible, the only solution which will be left for us — poor citizens of Amman — is to gang up and form the "society of road victims," which we have long threatened.

Even without belonging to such a society in her country, the Chinese woman on the bicycle would have her case against the negligence of the Peking authorities. That is why we ask Mayor Rawabdeh and his honourable colleagues in the Greater Amman Council to please take us seriously and repair the roads.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: King outlines peace path

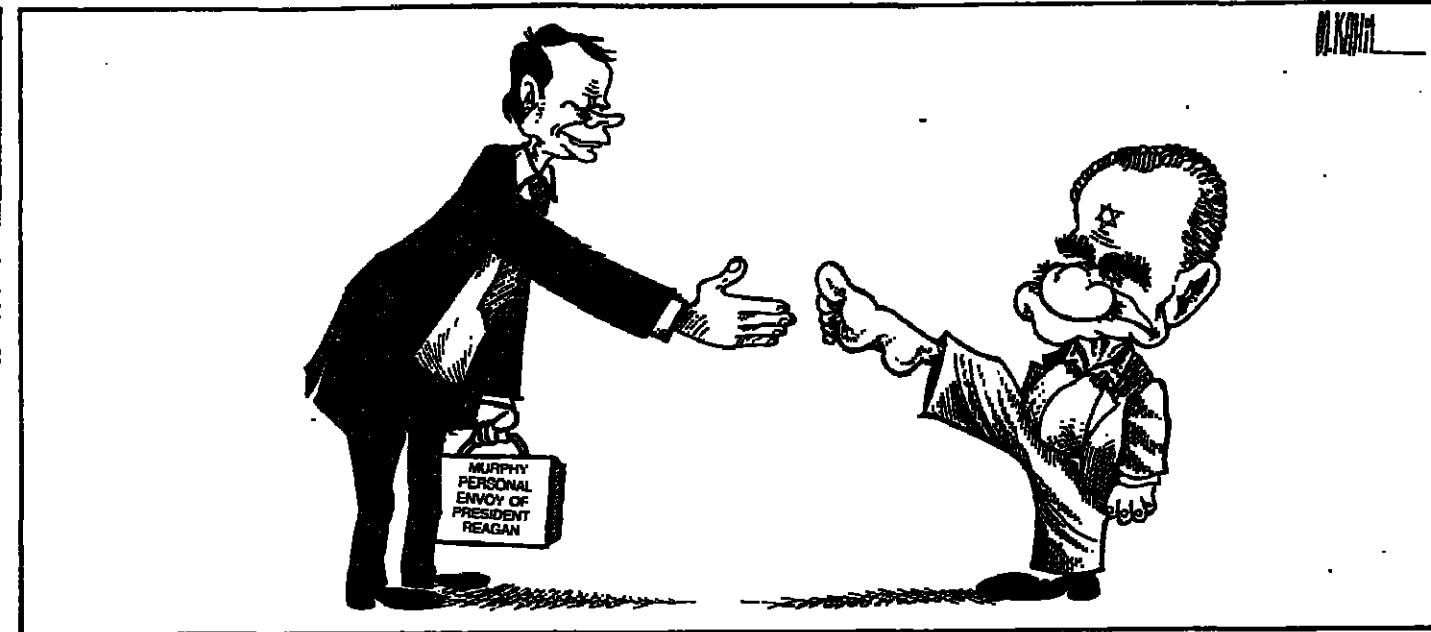
KING Hussein said in a statement to the French newspaper Le Monde that the continued absence of a just and durable Middle East peace is bound to bring about grave dangers that would be impossible to control. He said that the only way to end this dangerous situation can only come through an international conference in which the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council can play a major role, and in which all concerned parties can be involved in the peace-making process. This Jordanian stand expressed by the King is almost identical to that of the Soviet Union and, to a large extent, to that of Europe. Moscow has called for the international conference and for ample preparation for it by the five major powers. France has adopted a similar stand along with a number of other European nations, thus giving momentum to the drive for convening this important parity. Jordan has always been of the view that the United States should not be made to seek a settlement on its own, because it always favours the Israeli side and approves of Tel Aviv's idea of non-involvement of the PLO in the coming peace negotiations. For a settlement to be durable and successful, all concerned parties have to be involved in the peace process and all should take part in preparation for an international conference leading to a settlement based on U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 which provides for a total Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab lands. In his talks with French and Italian leaders, the King is bound to dwell on such a conference and on other urgent issues of concern to Europe, to the Arabs and world peace.

Al Dustour: Hopes for success

A seven-member Arab ministerial committee has embarked on a mission aimed at ending the camps war in Lebanon and saving the lives of Palestinian refugees besieged and shelled by the Amal militia. The Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi is heading the committee which is bound to hold contact with leaders of the warring sides in Lebanon and the Syrian government with the aim of reaching a formula to end the conflict. Needless to say that the committee is facing a very difficult task and the camps war serves as a touchstone for the Arab League's credibility. Should this mission fail in putting an end to the sufferings of the camps resident, joint Arab action would suffer a serious setback that would cause further weakness and further splits in Arab ranks. We hope that the Arab ministers will succeed in their mission, not only for ending the conflict around the camps, but also for the sake of helping the Arab League regain some of the credibility it has lost over the years. The Arab League and the Arab countries have failed over the past three months to stop continued Shi'ite shelling of the camps, and this impotence led to further intensification of the conflict, and widespread despair among Arab masses. We hope all involved parties in the conflict would cooperate fully with the Arab League committee so as to stop the bloodshed and end the tragedy of the refugees.

Sawt Al Shaab: King warns against dangers

IN a statement to the French daily Le Monde, King Hussein voiced a warning against Israel's continued occupation of Arab land and said that Israel's intransigent stand lies behind the dangerous situation in the Middle East region. The King pointed to the building of Jewish settlements in Arab territory and recent statements by Israeli leaders which, he said, are bound to obstruct any peace process. The King referred to Israel's refusal of the idea of an international peace conference to bring about a just and lasting solution for the Palestine problem, and said that such a conference is vital for implementing United Nations Security Council resolutions on the issue. He said that Jordan cannot act as a substitute for the Palestinian people and therefore the PLO and all concerned parties in the conflict should participate in the peace process. The King said that the United States has lost all its credibility specially after the disclosure of American arms sales to Iran which maintains aggression on Arab territory.



Kimche — Israel's spymaster-diplomat

By Ruth Sinai
The Associated Press

TEL AVIV — David Kimche — diplomat, spymaster and writer — was charged with the intricate mission of coordinating the three-nation triangle that led to U.S. arms sales to Iran. He was the perfect man for the job.

During his 27 years as a senior operative in the Israeli intelligence agency Mossad and later at the foreign ministry, the British-born Kimche was responsible for the outcome of some of the most complex negotiations Israel has conducted with the outside world.

Emerging abruptly from behind the scenes six years ago, he moved onto center stage as director of the foreign ministry.

"He loves the aura of secret contacts that's why the Iranian subject was so attractive to him," said a government official who worked closely with Kimche for several years.

"Even as a diplomat, when it really wasn't necessary, he loved to leave for trips in the dark and return before dawn," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Kimche, 56, is reticent about the period in his life that journalists have labeled the "black hole." In an interview with the Associated Press, he did discuss one major assignment of his Mossad career — establishing ties with the warring factions in Lebanon in the mid-1970s.

Some former colleagues in Israel's intelligence services have slammed Kimche for pushing

Israel into a disastrous alliance with Lebanon's Christians.

"They've claimed his faulty evaluation of the Christians' 'trustworthiness' was partly responsible for reliance on the Falange to help rout the Palestine Liberation Organisation in Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon."

Instead, the Christians carried out a massacre of Palestinian refugees in Beirut which led to worldwide censure and severely tarnished Israel's image.

But the bespectacled Kimche was anxious to defend himself. "They forget that at the time we had no contacts whatsoever in Lebanon," he said. "I told the Falange all the time — we will not fight for you, we will only help you help yourself."

His experience in establishing contacts with various groups came in handy on the Iranian moderates for the United States to contact.

From his talk with the AP and several other recent interviews, the following picture emerges of his five-month involvement in the deal:

It began when he was asked by then-premier Shimon Peres to meet former U.S. national security adviser Robert McFarlane, a personal friend, in Washington in July 1985.

His job was to ensure that President Ronald Reagan supported the idea of Israeli arms sales to Iran designed to open doors in Tehran for the U.S. administration.

On a subsequent trip in November, Kimche said, he discussed the arms deal over a hasty

lunch near the White House with the chief troubleshooter of the operation, Lt. Col. Oliver North.

A month later, Kimche travelled to London, where he met in the Kensington apartment of Israeli arms dealer Yaakov Nimrodi with North, McFarlane and Iranian mediator Manucher Ghorbanifar.

Kimche insisted that Israel only sought to help the United States, set up contacts in Tehran, then got out of the picture once McFarlane established a channel to the Iranians.

"Our matchmaking was successful. What the bride and groom did afterward is their business," he said.

Kimche repeatedly has denied reported allegations by North that he proposed funneling funds from the Iran sales to the contra rebels in Nicaragua.

"My job was political coordination, that was all," he told the AP. "I didn't deal with money. I knew nothing of the finances."

The soft-spoken Kimche said he was glad to get out of the Iranian operation in December 1985.

"Running the foreign ministry was a full-time job. I couldn't give both the Iranian issue and this my full attention," he said.

Foreign ministry officials say he worked 20-hour days. Despite his penchant for secrecy, Kimche always made time to talk to reporters, appearing to like the media exposure of his diplomatic career.

Kimche, who looks younger than his years, is also known as a debonair ladies man.

The youngest of nine children, he came from England in 1946. He was wounded while fighting in the 1948 war, obtained a master's degree in Middle East studies from Hebrew University, then joined the Mossad in 1953.

Former colleagues say Kimche aspired to become the Mossad's director and left when it became clear he had been passed over. His one-time subordinate at the agency, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, brought him to the foreign ministry.

Asked about the peak of his diplomatic career, Kimche said that when he arrived at the foreign ministry, "the African desk was like Siberia... I established high-level contacts with 16 or 17 countries."

Third World diplomacy has always been one of his main interests. In 1967, Kimche wrote a doctoral dissertation about the Non-Aligned Movement, which he then broadened into a book.

He also co-authored two books about contemporary Jewish history with his British journalist-brother, Jon Kimche.

Kimche was ousted from the foreign ministry in October as part of the cabinet shakeup that accompanied the Peres-Shamir power swap agreed to by Israel's two major political parties.

He does not rule out returning to the Mossad or the foreign ministry. Meanwhile, he is a shekel-a-year (67 cents) consultant for the foreign ministry and is handling investment projects for international businessman Shaul Eisenberg.

U.S. Congress opens with a roar of ideas

By Lawrence L. Knutson
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The 100th Congress opened its two-year legislative cycle with a crazy quilt of ideas, causes, investigations, bills, parties, controversy, complaints, self-promotion, politics and history lessons.

In other words, business last week as pretty much as usual for the debut of a U.S. Congress.

The first week's accomplishments included House Passage of a \$20 billion extension of the clean water act, an environmental measure similar to the one President Ronald Reagan vetoed last year, creation of committees to investigate the Iran-contra affair and introduction of hundreds of bills.

As lawmakers returned to town, Democrats were firmly in the saddle. Their victory banners flew not only from the Corinthian columns of the House of Representatives — which they have controlled since 1955 — but also from the Senate, which had been in Republican hands for the last six years.

The transfer of power to the Democrats for the first time in half

dozen years, ordered by million of voters last fall, was both symbolic and real.

The Democratic side of the Senate aisle now contains 55 mahogany desks and chairs. The minority Republicans claim 45.

The sign that identified senator Robert Dole as majority leader came down from the doors of his office suite.

The new majority leader — Democrat Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia — moved down the hall and around the corner from his offices on the prestigious second floor of the Capitol's Senate wing.

On one day last week, with the Senate temporarily out of session and only a few tourists in the galleries, a man sat at the Democratic side of the podium and practised intoning the roll call into a microphone: "Mister Adams, Mister Armstrong, Mister Baucus, Mister Bentsen," and so on.

That's the way the Senate has done it since the first Congress met in Philadelphia 198 years ago. But Byrd, who last year successfully introduced the Senate to an era of gavel-to-gavel television coverage, has another innovation in mind: Electronic

voting. The 435 members of the House have voted electronically since 1973. And Byrd asked the Senate for an immediate decision on whether to follow suit.

He needed unanimous consent. Dole blocked the move by saying, "I object."

Meanwhile, Democratic representative James Wright of Texas was installed as the 48th speaker of the House.

"To stand here in this place, at this time, by your choice, is a treasure more precious than any material possession and honour more sublime than royalty," said Wright.

Some lawmakers saw more clouds than sunshine as the session began.

Democratic senator Ernest Hollings, for instance, spoke on the Iran-contra affair: "Washington is the Olympics of emotion and sentiment. Everything is egregious, disastrous or some other bit of hyperbole. But out there in the country they just want to move on past this issue."

House members and senators used the first days of the new Congress to introduce hundreds of

bills — embracing the universe of American problems and concerns. Many were reintroductions, the congressional version of the American axiom, "if at first you do not succeed, try, try again."

Democratic senator Edward M. Kennedy re-introduced the equal rights amendment granting equal status to women.

Other bills by other lawmakers would reform campaign financing, give the president a single six-year term, restore the death penalty for federal crimes, abolish all or most abortions, stop proposed pay increases for members of Congress and top federal officials, allow federal workers to retire early, deal with unstable world oil prices; improve civil rights; improve the lot of various Indian tribes, ban the sale and manufacture of handguns and improve life for the homeless.

Near the end of the first congressional record published this year, a gray page of statistics gives the long odds of legislative success.

Last year, in the second session of the 99th congress, 2,686 Senate and House bills were introduced.

Of that total, 424 were enacted into law.

Dispute with Australia won't help French

By Richard Bill
The Associated Press

SYDNEY, Australia — France's image, already tarnished from a series of disagreements and incidents in the South Pacific, is taking another beating in the recent diplomatic dispute with Australia.

On Sunday, France announced that Australia's consul-general to New Caledonia, John Dauth, was persona non grata. Dauth was given a month to leave the Pacific territory. No explanation was offered.

Last week, France announced its ministers would no longer pay visits to Australia. That move was prompted by French anger over Australia leading 12 South Pacific nations in a successful effort to get New Caledonia placed on a United Nations list of territories entitled to independence.

France and Australia had already disagreed over a number of South Pacific issues, including French nuclear testing in the region and the sabotage by two French agents of the environmentalist Greenpeace flagship Rainbow Warrior in New Zealand two years ago.

The dispute over the future of New Caledonia added fuel to the flame, with France charging

Australia with "interference" in the territory's internal affairs.

Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden, in a strongly worded statement, took exception to the French expulsion of Dauth. He said Dauth was only doing his job and he called France's action "totally unjustified and capricious."

He added, however, that Australia would not retaliate. "Now it appears we are being accused of provoking and inciting, when really our actions have been quite to the contrary," he said.

Hayden said it was nonsense to suggest that Australia was trying to impose "some anglophone influence to erode the francophone influence" in New Caledonia.

New Caledonia, about 2,000 kilometres north-east of Australia, has been under direct French rule since 1853. The indigenous, but minority, Melanesians or Kanaks are demanding independence.

Bernard Pons, the French minister for overseas territories, last week announced plans to hold a referendum on the New Caledonia issue.

But European settlers, mostly of French descent, oppose severing links with France. The nickel-rich, former penal colony, has a population of about

145,000.

More than 20 people have died in sporadic violence pitting the independence-seeking Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front, which claims to represent most of the native Melanesian population, and the European, Asian and Polynesian residents who generally oppose independence. RPCR, or Rally for Caledonia in the Republic, is the most notable anti-independence party. It is aligned with France's neo-Gaullist rally for the Republic Party.

The territory has three representatives in the French national assembly, two of them are members of the RPCR.

Two members of the French security service were sentenced to 10-year prison terms in New Zealand for killing a Greenpeace crew member who died in the explosion.

Major Alan Mafart and Capt. Dominique Prieur were turned over to French custody following their conviction after France paid compensation to New Zealand. As part of the deal, France also agreed to lift trade barriers against New Zealand.

The Rainbow Warrior is not forgotten and continued French nuclear testing and New Caledonia are seen as classic

examples of French arrogance.

France maintains it is a major power in the South Pacific and says its nuclear testing programme is necessary. It has refused to sign the South Pacific Nuclear Weapons Free-zone Treaty, which Australia spearheaded.

With so many continuing areas of dispute, France is not managing to win over the nations it is trying to woo.

Walter Lini, prime minister of Vanuatu, said last week that the French attitude amounted to a "provocative colonial tactic designed to try to legitimise and justify to the world the continued French control and domination of New Caledonia."

"France runs the risk of losing friends. In this modern-day and age we cannot be bought with money," he said in apparent reference to the announcement by France of a \$3 million increase in regional aid for the year.

A senior official in Papua New Guinea said France was eroding the last vestiges of its credibility by punitive action against Australia over New Caledonia.

"In the end, this type of thing is just going to harden opinion against France in the region," said the official, who asked not to be named.

Nazareth: A symbol of Palestinian struggle

By Nicholas Bell

The author participated in the camp as a member of the delegation sent by the European Committee for the Defence of Refugees and Immigrants. His article is reprinted from the Guardian.

THE ANNUAL Nazareth Voluntary Work Camp is one of the most defiant acts of Arab resistance against the attempts of the Jewish state to destroy the identity, culture and economic basis of survival of the 700,000 Palestinians living in Israel.

Once again, last year, 7,000 young Palestinians (about a third respectively from the Occupied Territories, from Nazareth itself and from other Arab villages and towns in Israel), along with 200 progressive Jews and 70 persons from 11 foreign delegations, worked together with a fierce determination and enthusiasm on 60 sites spread out over the town.

We built retaining walls for roads, laid asphalt, installed water systems. The estimated value of the work accomplished in four days was 5720,000, four times the annual development budget which Nazareth receives from the state.

The ancient capital of Galilee now has a population of 55,000 and has become an Arab bastion, the symbol of their determination to maintain their identity and fight for their rights.

The town receives about 25 per cent of the per capita budget granted by the state to Jewish towns: two-thirds of the land belonging to the municipality in 1948 has been confiscated and handed over to 'Nazareth-Ilit' (Upper Nazareth) a new Jewish town of 25,000 built on one of the hills overlooking the Arab town.

Ilit possesses all modern services and has received massive development grants: 160 factories have been established there while in the Arab town only small workshops employing less than ten have survived the economic strangulation against Palestinians.

Ilit also forms part of a long-term policy for the Judaisation of Galilee. This is based on two main principles: first, create or reinforce Jewish towns and settlements by giving large grants and importing new settlers and, second, leave the Arab towns neglected.

New towns are surrounding major Arab concentrations. Afula to the south, Migdal Haemek to the west and Nazareth-Ilit to the east create a vast new urban area with today's Arab town as a ghetto in the middle. In addition, military camps have been set up on three hills which dominate Nazareth.

A visit to Israel brings one into total confrontation with the harsh reality which is all but unknown in Europe. Ben Gurion once said that the Jews were a people without a country coming to a country without a people. The continuing need for a cheap labour force can be covered by Palestinians coming from the Occupied Territories who, in a system similar to South Africa's townships, are forbidden to spend the night in Israel and are therefore forced to migrate every day. The brutal war of expulsion of 1947-8 has now given way to a more gradual, step-by-step war of repression, discrimination and humiliation.

In Haifa the old Arab districts, including fine historic buildings, are being left to fall in ruins or are being demolished. At Acre the old town is too magnificent to destroy and is a tourist attraction. In many cases Arabs expelled from their old villages in 1948, or nomadic Bedouins forced through land expropriations to become sedentary, built new villages on Arab-owned land. When, in the mid-sixties, official maps were drawn up, incorporating all the new Jewish settlements, these Arab villages were not included. They are therefore considered to be illegal.

Other areas have been declared military or security zones in which tens of thousands of olive and fruit trees have been uprooted.

About six thousand Arab families have been served notice by the Israeli authorities that they should demolish their own houses and leave the area (it is estimated that a further 20,000 face the risk of receiving the same order).

Many Arabs whose villages were destroyed or who were expelled found refuge in Nazareth. For the Palestinians living in Jewish dominated towns such as Haifa and Jaffa or in villages suffering this permanent oppression, Nazareth has become a symbol of hope.

Regent calls for Gulf peace

(Continued from page 1)

international community, the dangers of the Israeli policies in the occupied Arab territories, which aim at Judaising the land and replacing its people with Jewish immigrants, as well as the threats of the continuation of the present situation in the area.

He said that Jordan's geographic and strategic location has made it a "very sensitive spot" which has the potential to be affected by the rapid and dangerous developments resulting from the unstable conditions prevailing in the region.

Prince Hassan reiterated Jordan's commitment to the Palestine question and said that a just and durable solution to the issue, which goes in harmony with the Palestinian people's aspirations, remains the

Kingdom's major concern.

The Crown Prince said countries should strike a balance between their external and internal policies within the concept of political "centrism" and said that Jordan's stands on international issues was well known.

The Regent said that the ties between the Jordanian leadership and the world leaders, which is based on mutual respect and personal relationships, has positively reflected on the Kingdom's reputation world-wide.

The Crown Prince also reiterated Jordan's position on the importance of pan-Arab economic unity, and noted the necessity of cooperation in manpower-related affairs between the Arab oil countries and other nations in the area.

Israelis raid Bekaa Valley

(Continued from page 1)

buildings used as headquarters and barracks for commandos in the Bekaa.

Meanwhile Lebanese security sources said Lebanese fighters killed three Israeli-backed militiamen and wounded 10 in an attack Tuesday on a South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia post.

The sources said the SLA post on Jabal Al Rihan near Jezzine, 40 kilometres south-east of Beirut, was hit at 1115 GMT with machine-gun fire and rocket-propelled grenades.

In a separate development, the commander of United Nations peacekeeping forces in Lebanon accused Israel Tuesday of seeking "trouble and tension in the South" of the country.

Finnish Maj.-Gen. Gustav

Haciglund, head of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), was speaking at a memorial service for Irish Corporal Dermot McGlothin, 33, killed by Israeli fire near the village of Baraachit on Saturday night.

The Lebanese government has decided to ask the U.N. Security Council to extend the UNIFIL mandate for a further six months, Lebanese U.N. delegate Rachid Fakhrour said.

In Dublin, Ireland told Israel Tuesday of its anger over the shooting of the Irish soldier serving with UNIFIL.

Irish Foreign Minister Peter Barry took the unusual step of summoning Israeli Ambassador Yehuda Avner from his base in London to deliver a strong and trenchant complaint, officials said.

Iraq says Iranians besieged

(Continued from page 1)

but failed to achieve a breakthrough.

A military spokesman said Basra was "brutally shelled" Monday and a resident told Reuters by telephone it appeared to be the heaviest yet bombardment of the city.

He estimated well over 1,000 shells rained down on the city up to midnight Monday night.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein told Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Monday that the military situation in southern Iraq "has settled in favour of the Iraqi

forces." Iraq's state television reported.

The network said Mr. Mubarak telephoned Mr. Hussein to be briefed on battlefield developments in southern Iraq.

The International Red Cross (ICRC) Tuesday night condemned in strong terms what it called indiscriminate air attacks launched by both sides on civilian centres.

ICRC President Alexandre Hay, who has spoken out previously about civilian attacks in the six-year-old conflict, voiced "deep concern" to Geneva-based diplomats of Iran and Iraq.

دولت، میاں

Of Places and People

By Dr. Nicola A. Ziadeh

Nazareth in 1916, as it had been for years before and as it continued to be for years to follow, was spread over a number of hills. The souks (markets) were all in the lower part of the town. Everything people needed, from foodstuffs to cloth and utensils, were found only there. Men walked, in most cases, quite a distance to go to their shops or to buy some meat.

The town, with a population of just under 10,000, was divided into three distinct *harahs* (quarters). One, in the north, was inhabited mostly by members of the Greek Orthodox community; the southern was the abode, again mostly so, of the Roman and Greek Catholics; and the third, the eastern, was inhabited mostly by Muslims. But this did not mean isolation. Not in the least. People visited one another, and shared practically all the miseries of the war years, with some enjoyment on the occasion of a wedding or the like.

My maternal family were in the building profession. Stone-cutters and masons. They were not the only ones. Nazareth masons were sought for in the area. But during the war not too many people built houses. So the younger members of the family, like many others, sought other jobs.

Affilah, in the very heart of Marj Ibn Amir (Esdras) of the Bible, was a railway station on an extension of the Hijaz Railway, which branched off at Dera'a (in Syria) and had its terminus at Haifa (in Palestine), then (1906)

nothing more than a small fishing town. Again shortly before and during World War I, the Turkish government constructed an extension of the railway from Affilah to Tulkarem, Wadi Sarar and Bir Shiba (at Wadi Sarar this new extension effected a junction with the Jerusalem-Jaffa Railway built already in 1896). The new extension was meant to carry Turkish troops to southern Palestine to impede the advance of the Allies from Egypt. So Affilah became a place for troop concentration, coming from Damascus, and awaiting to be transported to the south.

Now those young men of our (extended) family hit on the idea of selling bread to the soldiers at Affilah. The women folk mixed the flour, kneaded the dough and took it to the bakery to have it baked by the late evening hours. The young men then carried the bread in large tins, which they strapped to their backs. At dawn they started the two hours march from Nazareth to Affilah. They sold the bread, sometimes they bought whatever was available there, and returned home by about noon. They had their meal and enjoyed a sleep. This gave the families some income to enable them to subsist. I went with them several times, just for the sake of seeing things and people.

Because Turkey was on the side of the central powers during the war, the Mediterranean was closed to Syria, Lebanon and Palestine. Many commodities were scarce, and when available very costly. Sugar, which in normal

times came from Egypt, could hardly be obtained on the market. People like ourselves, resorted to molasses. My grandfather had a huge carob tree in his orchard. He collected its fruits in time, had them sent to a pressing place. He paid part of the molasses for the work done. In many cases our secret (which could be just the whole meal) was millet-flour dough, baked, with molasses sprinkled on top. Molasses was also used for sweetening coffee and tea, when such luxuries were available.

I had learnt Arabic at a school in Damascus. When I lived with my uncle in Tulkarem, I attended school there. Now at Nazareth I went to a school run by a cousin of my mother. There I began learning a little English. We used a book called "The Queen Reader," which must have been written during the reign of Queen Victoria. About sixty years later I met, in Amman, one of my classmates at that school. We were so happy to talk of old days.

Nazareth had just one spring, and a poor one at that. I had lived in Damascus, where water was plentiful. Later I lived in Jenin and Acre, where we could have as much water as we needed. But the lack of water at Nazareth is the picture which has impressed me most. Up to the present I have an especial reverence for water and I am always careful about not wasting even a cupful of the precious stuff.

Houses in Nazareth, like in many towns and villages in our part of the world, collected rain water in cisterns. My grandfather

had two — one for washing body and clothes, and the other for drinking and cooking. So he and his family rarely suffered from lack of water. As it is, he sometimes allowed his relatives to help themselves to his cistern.

Going back to the only spring in the town. This was near the church of annunciation. I can never forget the picture of men, women and children waiting — not exactly in queue — to fill their tins, jars, or goatskins. It took a long time to do that because the water literally trickled from the tap. The Turkish government tried to dig a well in the Greek Orthodox *harah*, but after going down about 60 metres, the project was given up as impossible. You probably realise now why I hold water with such esteem. As a kid I saw what trouble people had, in Nazareth, to secure their minimum need of this valuable stuff.

It was customary for people to store their needs of oil, cereals, pulses, samneh (cooking butter), labneh and the like for a whole year. But during the war years such thing was not always possible. My grandfather's orchard, as one might call, had fig trees and trees of almonds, apricots, vines and similar things. His wife could keep some of these fruits, after drying them, for the winter. He had a kitchen garden just in front of the house, where he grew his eggplants, squashes, tomatoes, parsley, mint and many other vegetables. But oil had to be bought, and so many other things.

One staple ingredient in Nazareth houses was "burghul." The

preparation of burghul was an occasion for merriment for us kids. Wheat was half-boiled in large cauldrons. So there were big fires, and sometimes the men sang and played some musical instruments. When this was done the boiled stuff was dried, usually on the roofs of the houses. Here we had our occasions of joy. We were asked to guard this during the day, lest the birds, as hungry as the men, would pick too much of it. Once this is really dry it would be crushed, and then separated into three categories: the largest large pieces were left for cooking burghul or mujaddara; the smaller ones were used for kubbah; while the very tiny ones, almost as small as flour, were reserved for other kinds of cooking.

The great festival of Nazareth was St. Mary's day, which fell on August 15 (Julian calendar) usually a very hot day. The Church (of the Virgin Mary) was surrounded by a wall. After mass the young men went around the church, chanting, singing, clapping their hands — all in honour of St. Mary, but what gave colour to this festival was that a certain family provided *arak* for the young men, who drank it just neat from glasses, while carrying on with their joyous behaviour.

This was all very nice for us kids. My mother, however, could not let her parents care for four children. She began looking for a job. She was lucky. She got a splendid kind of work at Jenin; and so in the autumn of 1917 we settled there — and for five years. And pleasant ones they were.



An early 20th century photo of the town of Nazareth

Jordan, France agree on Mideast conference

(Continued from page 1)

and human interest, and which attracts scholars, tourists and visitors of all walks of life.

The treasures which Paris now houses stand out as the best witness on culture, and the great history of the French people who offered marked contributions to the human civilisation, the King said. He also paid tribute to Paris Municipality which he said is now adding its own contribution to the development of the French capital.

"Jordan," the King said, "is pleased to benefit from the French capital's experience in all fields that aim at increasing and improving services to Jordanian cities, while at the same time preserving the country's ancient treasures and antiquities."

King Hussein said that Jordan was looking forward towards further cooperation between Amman and Paris for the best interest of the Jordanian and French people.

In reply, Mr. Chirac said that King Hussein represents the voice of reason in a region beset with problems and difficulties and continually facing disturbances and threats. He said France fully appreciates Jordan's stand vis-a-vis the Middle East issues.

He said that municipal authorities in Amman and Paris have agreed on exchanging expertise on public services and administration.

King Hussein and Queen Noor also Tuesday attended a luncheon given in their honour by Mr. Jacques Chaban-Delmas, speaker of the French National Assembly and his wife.

Mr. Chaban-Delmas welcomed the King and the Queen in a speech at the outset of the banquet, praising existing Franco-Jordanian ties.

In reply, King Hussein paid tribute to France, and the French National Assembly which he said symbolises democracy and the meaning of freedom and human values, and embodies the principles of equality, fraternity and freedom of the great French Revolution.

King Hussein said that Jordan was looking forward to the French National Assembly's positive contribution towards the establishment of peace in the Middle East, the area which is closely linked with Europe geographically, historically and culturally.

King Hussein extended an invitation to Mr. Chaban-Delmas, his wife and a delegation from the French National Assembly to visit Jordan and expressed hope for stronger relations between the French and Jordanian people in all fields.

On Tuesday evening King Hussein and Queen Noor were guests of honour at a banquet hosted by the French prime minister.

At the outset of the banquet, King Hussein made a speech in which he pointed to Israel's refusal to all bids for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, almost 20 years after the occupation of Arab lands.

The King said that the Arab-Israeli conflict, which started in 1948 was deepened and escalated with Israel's war on the

Arabs in 1967 when it occupied Arab territories.

"The international community passed a resolution which serves as a basis for a solution to the Middle East conflict. The Arab countries issued their peace plan at the Arab summit meeting in Fez in 1982, which was in the spirit of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 242. The European Community issued a declaration in 1980 on the need of implementing the Resolution 242 to arrive at a just and lasting peace," King Hussein said.

But, he added, "Israel has disregarded all these resolutions, and has preferred to maintain its occupation of Arab territory where it continues to introduce demographic and geographic changes in defiance of the will of the international community, and disregard of United Nations resolutions."

Israel, the King added, has been consolidating its occupation of Arab land by confiscating Arab property and Arab water resources, and has been building Jewish settlements on confiscated Arab land thus forcing the indigenous population to abandon their homes and their land.

"All these measures, serve as obstacles in the path of peace, which is being sought by the Arabs who have accepted the principle of swapping land for peace," the King said.

"Jordan," he has been instrumental in persuading other parties in the conflict to reach a just and peaceful solution with Israel for ending the conflict, and ensuring the return of the rights of the Arab people, because Jordan is totally committed to the cause of the Palestinian people and shoulders its responsibility towards peace in the region," the King added.

The latest Jordanian bid towards peace was the joint effort with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (P.L.O.), and aimed at reaching a peace formula based on Security Council Resolution 242 and 338, King Hussein said.

He said that "several factors have thwarted our efforts in this direction but we will continue the endeavour for peace through an international conference to be held under U.N. auspices and attended by the permanent members of the Security Council."

"We hope," the King said, "that France will continue to render support and backing for our efforts towards peace through the European Community and its influence worldwide."

Referring to the economic situation in the occupied West Bank, King Hussein said until a total peace is achieved Jordan has prepared a social and economic development plan for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to enable the Palestinian people to maintain their identity and preserve their homeland.

Earlier on Tuesday King Hussein and Queen Noor visited the Memorial for the Unknown Soldier at the Arch of Triumph in the heart of the French capital.

Upon their arrival they were met by the military governor of Paris. The King viewed the Guard of Honour and laid a wreath at the monument. Later the King met with the monument's board of trustees and signed the monument's register.

Banished Soviet director says Gorbachev can make all the difference

By Bryan Brumley

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Yuri Petrovich Lyubimov, banished from the Soviet Union for his outspoken views on theatre and politics, has visions of a homeland radically different from the one he left three years ago.

Lyubimov, 69, dreams of a Soviet Union in which Communist leaders tolerate freedom of speech, freedom of religion and the free movement of people.

Interviewed as he prepared a Washington theatrical company to perform the Russian classic "Crime and Punishment," Lyubimov sees the outline of such a homeland emerging in the words and actions of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

And Lyubimov said he is convinced that Gorbachev, who

last month summoned dissident physicist Andrei Sakharov home from internal exile, also is ready to welcome the theatre director back in Moscow.

During his two decades as director of Moscow's Taganka Theatre, Lyubimov loomed large over the Soviet artistic scene, staging avant-garde and politically risky plays. At times he served as a buffer between the Communist Party, to which he belonged for 30 years, and dissident Soviet artists, many of whom are his friends.

He teetered on the brink of political heresy throughout his tenure at Taganka and went over the brink in 1984, criticising several top Soviets by name while he was producing "Crime and Punishment" in London.

A Soviet diplomat, after hearing Lyubimov's remarks, declared, "We have the crime, and the punishment will follow."

Shortly thereafter, Lyubimov was fired, kicked out of the party and stripped of his citizenship. The controversial plays he produced at the Taganka, such as Yuri Trifonov's "House on the Embankment" and Mikhail Bulgakov's "Master and Margarita," disappeared from the repertoire.

Forbidden from returning to his homeland, Lyubimov found opportunity in the West. He has staged works in England, Sweden and Italy. On Jan. 2, he started public performances of his first U.S. production at the arena stage in Washington. He has commitments for about five years, including an offer from Harvard University to write his memoirs there.

The mood had been changing in Moscow since Gorbachev came to power in 1985, however. Last Oct. 22, 160 actors and friends of the

Taganka wrote to the Soviet leader asking that Lyubimov be welcomed back. Since then, Lyubimov has received messages indicating the Kremlin will allow him back, at least to the theatre.

"I would be happy if this served as the beginning of a dialogue with the emigres," Lyubimov said in a letter to Gorbachev on Dec. 21.

In his interview with the Associated Press, Lyubimov lamented that "a great many Russian artists are emigres. I am praying that a change will occur, and that this finally will be different and the great representatives of Russian culture will be able to return to their homeland."

"Soviet society needs to stop being closed," he said. "All the pronouncements of Gorbachev testify that he understands the severity of the problem, that he understands that the atmosphere

of the country has to be made healthier."

Lyubimov wants to return, but under terms of greater freedom than the Kremlin previously has allowed artists.

"I could work there only if I could continue working the way I do. Circumstances would have to be different. I think they have been announced," he said, referring to Gorbachev's policy of *glasnost* (openness).

Western-style freedom of speech still does not exist in the Soviet Union, but under *glasnost* there has been a greater degree of discussion in the state-controlled press of many sensitive issues, including alcoholism, corruption, natural and man-made disasters, and even ethnic disturbances in Soviet Central Asia.

Lyubimov is a practising Christian and wears a gold cross on a chain around his neck. When

he was a member of the Communist Party, he kept the cross under his shirt, he says.

His work reflects his Christianity, and he says his art has moved the "full arc" from his first productions, the works of socialist playwright Bertold Brecht, to his latest, based on Fyodor Dostoyevsky, a Russian novelist whose works are steeped in orthodox Christian symbolism.

The anti-hero of Dostoyevsky's "Crime and Punishment," Raskolnikov, commits a heinous murder in the belief that he is above human law, a credo that Lyubimov says is too widespread in the Soviet Union. It is a belief that he seeks to demolish.

"The world suffers from the ideas of Raskolnikov. The world understands that totalitarianism and militarism bring it closer and closer to catastrophe," he said.

Mud provides cheap answer for homeseekers

By Anton Ferreira

Reuters

TAOS, New Mexico — Less than 75 miles from Los Alamos, birthplace of the atomic bomb and centre of advanced U.S. nuclear research, Bob Nieman teaches his students how to build with one of the world's oldest technologies — mud.

He conducts the building school at his home near Taos, a town in the southern foothills of the Rocky mountains first settled by Indians and more recently colonised by artists and skiers.

So far he has given two courses in how to build the traditional adobe homes of the U.S. southwest, attracting students ranging from a Puerto Rican potter and a Brooklyn sculptor. Courses are limited to six people.

"The first lesson is simple — how to mix sand and water. The conventional method is with a spade, but two women students on the latest course successfully tried squelching the sand and water together with their bare feet."

Building adobe houses is as simple as it looks. The mud is dried in moulds without baking or compression and then the bricks are placed one on top of the other with more mud in between and holes for doors and windows.

For Nieman's students it is also time to soak aching muscles in nearby hot springs because each brick weighs about 12 kilograms.

The bricks' weight guarantees a solid structure which soaks up sun during the day and acts like an adobe oven at night.

The mud buildings do not get washed away by rain. Structures, put up hundreds of years ago by Indians and Spanish settlers are still standing, merging into the landscape with their natural earth colours.

Adobe is forgiving material for the novice builder to work with because errors of alignment can always be plastered over with a thick layer of mud.

"Adobe bricks are never perfect rectangles anyway," said Nieman. "It's part of their charm."

Another section of the course entailed searching nearby forests for dead trees to use as rafters and

roof beams. Students who days earlier knew no job more strenuous than punching wood processors now wielded chainsaws and sang like lumberjacks.

The emphasis of the course is on building your own home from freely available materials like sand, water and dead trees for a fraction of the price a professional would charge.

"You can figure on spending about \$6,000 to build an adobe home that a contractor would charge you \$60,000 for," Nieman said.

At 60, Nieman is a living testament to the benefits of an active outdoor life, setting a work pace students half his age battled to keep up with.

He subscribes to the traditional American philosophy of self-reliance. He is his own plumber and electrician, does his own metal and wood work, smokes his own ham and rolls his own cigarettes.

Devices deflect spies, assassins, jealous spouses

By Kiley Armstrong

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Need a car with built-in machine-gun ports? A fake cigarette package with an anti-kidnapping transmitter? Try the counter spy shop, where movie-style imagination spawns no-nonsense security devices.

Although their identities are secret, counter spy's customers include terrorist-war diplomats, corporate victims of electronic eavesdropping — even estranged spouses who fear their trysts are being taped.

"If a client needs something and it's within the realm of the law and within the law of physics, we can provide it," said Bob Schatz, the company's director of training.

If your anti-terrorist needs surface in other cities — no problem. Counter spy shops also have opened in Washington, Houston, Beverly Hills, London and Paris.

For your surveillance needs, try a stylish, quartz wall clock — with

an imperceptible camera lens planted in the "10" — priced at \$1,500 and up.

A posh leather attache from Milan features a hidden tape recorder and a microphone inside the lock. A compact, spy-style photocopy, priced under \$100, can travel easily in a coat pocket.

For the fashion-minded dictator or combat photographer, there are \$200 bullet-proof T-shirts, sporty-looking flak jackets and even a Deanin anti-ballistic vest.

"One gentleman from South America said to me, 'in my country, it would be very hot to wear this (bullet-proof clothing),' recalled Schatz. "Then he reconsidered, and said, 'you know, better hot than shot.'"

The clothing is part of counter spy's anti-terrorism line, "our fastest-growing department," said Schatz. The line also includes bomb detectors, priced from \$350 to \$2,000, including a letter-bomb detector in a samsoneite briefcase.

The kidnap recovery system — \$1,500 to \$28,000 — hides a

transmitter beneath fake cigarettes in a hard-pack of Marlboro 100 lights, complete with surgeon general's warning about the health hazards of tobacco. If kidnapped, you simply activate the box with a squeeze; your driver or bodyguard is alerted with flashing lights and alarms and can follow you with a tracking device.

"If they ask you for a cigarette and they find out? That's it. There's no magic," said Schatz, who noted that non-smokers might prefer their transmitter in a belt buckle, pen or cosmetic compact.

Is corporate espionage becoming a nuisance? Counter spy's telephone scramblers render conversations "gibberish" to a third party who is listening in. The travel model is concealed in a briefcase; the office model in a "very nice walnut box" filled with cigars, noted Schatz.

One needn't be rich or royal to appreciate the \$75 wristwatch that squirts tear gas at muggers or a

\$10 alarm that goes off when a dieter opens the refrigerator or a child opens a forbidden drawer.

Counter spy's parent company, CCS Communications in Port Chester, New York, sells cars.

The firm's bullet proof super cars cost up to \$385,000 with such options as machine gun ports, ramming bumpers and automatic extinguishers for Molotov cocktails.

"We can build a car with a machine-gun port. But we don't provide the guns — that's their business," noted Schatz.

Super cars for foreign delivery can include three shotgun shells beneath the driver's seat, which can be detonated by remote control should a hijacker commandeer the vehicle. Other engineering devices protect the passengers.

The James Bond style features can be added to your existing vehicle or a new car. In a hurry? Simply walk in, select a showroom vehicle and drive away in it.

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Australians win against odds in home tennis open

MELBOURNE (Agencies) — Inspired by their team's Davis Cup victory over Sweden two weeks ago, Australians Wally Masur and Mark Kratzmann shattered the form book with fine wins in the Australian Open tennis championships Tuesday.

Masur, ranked 71st in the world, continued the devastating form he has displayed since last month's Davis Cup final by beating experienced American John Sadri 6-3, 6-7, 6-4, 6-0 in a two hour 45 minute centre court struggle.

Kratzmann, once Australia's most promising junior player and now struggling at 140 on the ATP computer, continued his surge with a 7-6, 4-6, 7-6, 6-4 win over Jay Lapidus of the United States.

Masur, who won the South Australian men's open in Adelaide last week, said Pat Cash's stunning comeback to beat French Open runner-up Michael Pernfors to give Australia an unbeatable 3-1 Davis Cup lead had served as an example.

"I just sat there for three days and watched great tennis. I thought that's what it's all about," Masur said.

"I saw how strong mentally Pat was and I went to Adelaide telling myself to be positive, keep my head down and look like a competitor."

American Matt Anger eased into the second round when American Marcel Freeman had to withdraw from their match with a groin injury.

Anger, 23, led 6-4, 1-0 when Freeman suffered a recurrence of the injury.

Anger, also from the United States, earned a meeting with Israeli Amos Mansdorf, who had a first-round bye.

Anger could face a third-round match with top-seed Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia, who faces American Danny Saltz in his second-round match after being given a first-round bye.

Another American, 21-year-old Stanford University economics student Derrick Rostagno, also moved quickly into the second round with a 7-5, 6-2, 6-3 triumph over big-serving Nigerian Nduka Odizor.

Wimbledon champion Boris Becker of West Germany, who Monday criticised the decision to move the open from grass, is the second seed and expected to be the main threat to Lendl, who is bidding to win a Grand Slam event on grass for the first time.

Yannick Noah of France is the third seed, ahead of defending champion Stefan Edberg of Sweden in the \$1.65-million tournament.

Dan Goldie of the United States won a tough first-round encounter against Mike DePalmer of Knoxville, Tennessee, 1-6, 6-4, 1-6, 6-1, 6-2.

U.S. Davis Cup squad member Paul Annacone also advanced with a 7-6, 7-6, 6-4 victory over Tony Mmoh of Nigeria.

Martina Navratilova of the United States heads the women's seeds as she seeks her second straight victory at Kooyong. She is scheduled to face compatriot Jamie Golder in her second-round opener after a first-round bye.

With Chris Evert Lloyd missing the Australian Open because of an injury and West Germany's Steffi Graf electing not to play, Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia, the women's champion in 1980, is seeded second.

Gigi Fernandez of Puerto Rico, Yuki Kozumi of Japan and American Susan Rimes were among first-round winners Tuesday.

Fernandez romped to a 6-4, 6-3 win over young Australian Sally McCann, while Kozumi defeated Myriam Schropp of West Germany 6-1, 2-6, 6-3.

Rimes was far too consistent in defeating fellow American Caryn Copeland 6-2, 6-2.

Fernandez will play American Marianne Werdel, while Kozumi clashes with sixth-seeded Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria and Rimes meets Eva Pfaff of West Germany in second-round matches.

Canadian teen-ager Helen Kelesi played impressively in winning her first-round match 6-4, 6-4 against Brazilian baseliner Claudia Monteiro. Kelesi next will face American Camille Benjamin.

Other women to advance included Americans Anne Smith and Heather Ludloff.

Smith downed France's Virginia Paquet 7-5, 6-3, while Ludloff bested Emiko Okagawa of Japan 7-5, 6-3.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Maradona brothers line up against Japan

TOKYO (R) — Brothers Diego and Raul Maradona have been selected for a South American squad which will meet a Japanese selection in a charity match here on Jan. 24. The Japan Soccer Association said Tuesday the 18-man South American squad, made up of players from four countries, will also boast Edinho, Josimar, Falcao and Junior of Brazil, and Rogelio Delgado and Roberto Cabanas of Paraguay. Raul Maradona, younger brother of the Argentine World Cup captain, plays for Boca Juniors as a midfielder. The visiting team for the match in aid of UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund, will be picked by Carlos Bilardo, coach of the Argentine side which won the 1986 World Cup.

Botham's bat 'Boomer' is back

SYDNEY (R) — Thieves have returned cricket star Ian Botham's favourite bats, which were stolen in a weekend raid on the England dressing room here, sports officials said Tuesday. The bats, which included the extra-large Botham "Boomer" with which the England all-rounder has scored more than 1,500 test runs, were left outside the Sydney Cricket Ground in a package marked "urgent." But two bats belonging to Jack Richards and Bruce French, which were also stolen were not in the package. "I had put it down to some over-enthusiastic souvenir hunters and I'm glad they at least had the conscience to return some of the gear," said ground manager Noel Neate.

Soviet coaches fired after brawl

MOSCOW (AP) — Sports officials have fired the two top coaches of the national junior hockey team after the team was disqualified from the World Championships because of a bench-clearing brawl with the Canadian squad. The brawl occurred in the second period of the Soviet-Canada match in Prague, Czechoslovakia, on Jan. 3, and led to both teams being thrown out of the championships. The Soviets had performed badly in the tournament, leaving them out of the running, and the Soviet press complained both about their playing and about the brawl. The newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda, in an article headlined "Fell flat? Answer for it," reported Tuesday that the national sports committee met after the tournament and fired head coach Vladimir Vasiliev, along with his assistant, Valentin Gureyev.

Zurbriggen wins giant slalom

ADELBODEN, Switzerland (AP) — Switzerland's Pirmin Zurbriggen edged last year's champion Marc Girardelli by .11 second to win the Adelboden giant slalom race and widen his overall World Cup lead. The 23-year-old Zurbriggen, an all-rounder who also tops the downhill standings, survived second heat problems after a brilliant opener to score his 22nd World Cup victory with a two-run total of 2:43.23 minutes. Austrian-born Girardelli who races for Luxembourg and has been plagued by injury for much of the season, shot up from fifth place in the first heat with the best time in the windup. Hubert Strolz of Austria took third place, followed by Ingemar Stenmark, the Swedish veteran who has won five giant slaloms at Adelboden in his 13-year career.

Holland beats Spain in field hockey tourney

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Holland beat Spain 2-1 and Asian Games champion South Korea downed Poland by a solitary goal on the fourth day of the seven-nation field hockey tournament here Tuesday. The two teams won in contrasting styles.

Holland, after dominating the first half, had to face the determined Spaniards while the Koreans toyed with Poland all through the 70-minute encounter.

For Holland, skipper Ton Van Heek scored both the goals while Spain's Ignacio Escude reduced the margin for his team.

Holland's five points equal table leader India in the round robin competition but the latter are placed on top with a better goal average. Both the teams have played three matches.

South Korea dominated the match against Poland but could score only once from a penalty stroke conversion by Kim Man Lae two minutes before the half time.

The tournament is named after former Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Referees' strike has hurt Cyprus chances

ATHENS (R) — A referees' strike in Cyprus which lasted three weeks has further diminished the island team's chances of winning its European Soccer Championship Group Five match against Greece here Wednesday.

League matches were suspended during the strike and although it was resolved by last weekend, Cyprus's leading players were required for national squad training which meant they were again denied competitive football.

The best that could be arranged was a friendly against a visiting Bulgarian team which Cyprus won 3-2.

But the lack of match practice is likely to count against the Cypriots who were beaten 2-0 by The Netherlands just before Christmas and lost 4-2 to Greece before that. The Netherlands' victory put it top of the section.

The weather forecast for Wednesday is good after a weekend during which gales and snowstorms swept Greece. Greek coach Miltos Papapostolou said this was important. "Good weather conditions are important for our best performance," he said.

Cyprus is bottom of the group after its two home defeat last month and its coach Panikos Iakovou said his aim now was to prepare a young team for the next World Cup qualifying tournament.

Felony charges filed against Mets' Gooden

TAMPA, Florida (AP) — The Hillsborough county state attorney filed two third-degree felony charges of resisting arrest Monday against New York Mets pitching star Dwight Gooden, involved in a Dec. 13 scuffle with police.

Gooden, 22, was charged with resisting a police officer with violence and battery on a law enforcement officer. Each third-degree felony carry a maximum sentence of five years in prison and a \$5,000 fine with conviction.

Three other adults were arrested with the 1985 National League Cy Young Award winner, who was stopped by police in what they called a routine traffic case.

State attorney Bill James said each was charged with resisting an officer with violence while a fourth companion of Gooden was referred to juvenile authorities.

Facing trial Jan. 22 with Gooden will be his nephew, Gary Sheffield, 18; Vance Lovelace, 23, who works for the California Angels; and Phillip Walker Jr., 23.

"I want to make it crystal-clear to everybody within the community that I view these particular offences as among the most serious we investigate," James told reporters. "I can assure this community that these cases will be dealt with a very stern fashion."

He said he filed state charges

after a full investigation of the arrests, in which Gooden was charged by city of Tampa police with resisting arrest with violence, battery on a police officer and disorderly conduct. James' office said Monday that the disorderly conduct charge, a misdemeanor, was "absorbed within the more-serious felony charges."

"When you attack a police officer, it's a very serious matter," said James.

Gooden and his four companions were arrested after fighting with police officers who said the Mets star was angered when they pulled his silver Mercedes over for a minor traffic offence.

Gooden suffered facial bruises and bloodshot eye in the scuffle. Gooden's attorney, Charles Ehrlich, has claimed officers used excessive force, hitting Gooden with nightsticks and flashlights. He also suggested the arrest had racial overtones.

Police have denied that race was a factor, saying Gooden's behaviour forced them to respond to subdue him.

A blood-alcohol test given Gooden at Tampa General Hospital, where he was treated for minor injuries after his arrest, showed a level of .111, just barely over .100, Florida's legal definition of driving under the influence. He was not charged with that offence.

Conner goes one up in challenger final

FREMANTLE, Australia (AP) — Dennis Conner drew first blood as Stars and Stripes led all the way and unharmed New Zealand by one minute, 20 seconds in heavy seas and winds to capture the first race in the America's Cup challenger finals, on Tuesday.

Stars and Stripes led at the start and showed superior boat speed in the 20-26-knot winds on the choppy Indian Ocean course off this small port city.

Conner was able to run the race on his terms throughout. He gained control at the start and led by 15 seconds at the first mark.

Once out in front, Conner refrained from getting into a tacking duel with New Zealand skipper Chris Dickson, staying instead with a straight-line strategy that worked to perfection.

New Zealand made it close for five legs, cutting the deficit from 30 to 18 seconds on the two reaching legs. But on the third beat to weather, the winds picked up — and so did Stars and Stripes, which gained 23 seconds for a 41-second edge entering the final spinnaker run.

Stars and Stripes, the San Diego Yacht Club entry, added eight seconds on the downwind run and 31 more on the beat to the finish line. Dickson, who saw his 28-race winning streak go sailing away, desperately attempted to lure Conner into a tacking duel, but Conner kept a loose cover on his foe during the race to the finish line.

Dickson did not seem downcast over the defeat. He entered the press conference room with a smile, and told the group: "I hope we won't do any worse Wednesday. This is a best of seven series, let's not get too excited over one race."

Conner credited his crew for a magnificent job. He said he could not explain why Stars and Stripes lost ground on the two reaches. "We'll have to look at the films later," he commented.

Dickson said Conner never gave them a chance once he got in front, but he said he wouldn't do anything different. "I don't think we made any obvious mistakes."

Stars and Stripes tactician Tom Whidden credited the victory to Conner's playing the wind shifts well along with a slight edge in boat. "The shifts today weren't big, but Dennis played them perfectly," he said.

The two boats met again Wednesday. It had been thought that New Zealand might seek a lay day. Each boat is allowed one lay day during the first four races. A request for a second lay day after the first four races must be approved by the race jury.

The race proved that, in heavy conditions, Stars and Stripes is faster and more powerful than its smaller opponent. New Zealand is believed to be more manoeuvrable and to accelerate faster out of a tack, but can be beaten by an opponent who can get out in front and play the wind, rather than engaging in a tacking duel.

Conner compared the two

boats before the race to a clash between a drag racer and a Porsche. "We're the drag racer," he said at a news conference Monday.

In the tricky pre-start manoeuvring, Conner won by three seconds. More importantly, he protected the right side of the course, usually more favoured by the winds.

The first crossing between the two boats saw Stars and Stripes ahead by approximately one-third of a boat length. By the next crossing, Conner was ahead by two boat lengths, and by the time he reached the mark he was 15 seconds in front.

Conner did a beautiful jibe-set at the mark and Stars and Stripes' big spinnaker powered it further in front of the desperate New Zealanders. The leg added two seconds to Stars and Stripes' lead.

The tone of the race was set on the second beat to weather, as the winds picked up to around 26 knots. Conner threw a loose cover on Dickson and just powered ahead, gaining 13 seconds to give him a 30-second margin as they began the two reaching legs. Dickson and his crew, perhaps feeling the pressure, were sloppy on a couple of tacks during this leg.

Coloured named to S. African cricket team

JOHANNESBURG (R) — An event totally unthinkable in South Africa 19 years ago has now quietly come about with not a sign of protest — a non-white has been selected to play international cricket.

Omar Henry, a coloured (mixed race) spin bowler, has been chosen to play for the South African Springboks in the third five-day match against the rebel Australians, starting on Saturday. In 1968, when England included another South African-born coloured, Basil D'Oliveira, in its squad to tour South Africa, Prime Minister John Vorster barred him.

The tour was called off, a move that eventually led to the international isolation of South African cricket and most other sports.

Cricket officials, realising that only change would gain them

re-admission to international competition, began removing race barriers from the game as far as the country's apartheid laws allowed. It has been a slow process.

Ten years ago, non-whites were not allowed to use changing rooms or bar facilities at white grounds on the rare occasions they were permitted to play. Few blacks are interested in the game but it has a large following among coloureds and Indians. Their facilities were poor, with sub-standard pitches, often a matting strip.

Pressure by the South African Cricket Union (SACU) eventually led to the government modifying or scrapping certain apartheid laws and "mixed" cricket became a reality.

But because of the government's policy of separate living areas and schools for different race groups, only a handful of non-whites had access to good facilities and coaching. Few reached first-class standard. Henry is among those who did.

There are several ironies surrounding his selection. One is that it will not be his first national cap or his first international against an Australian side.

He has played in Scotland for the past 10 years and was selected to play for that country against the official Australian touring team.

He also captained Scotland twice in one-day games against India and Worcester last year.

IRBID DISTRICT ELECTRICITY CO. LTD. THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN JORDAN ENERGY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IRBID LOAN NO. 2371-JO

1. THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN has received a loan from the World Bank in various currencies towards the cost of Jordan Energy Development Project, and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payment under the contract for Tender 25114/02/1.

2. The IRBID DISTRICT ELECTRICITY CO. LTD. now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply and delivery CIF AQABA of:

ITEM	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION
A	150	14M long wood pole to ANSI 05, 1-1979 appendix B class I and table B, scarfed and drilled in accordance with drawings...
B	300	As item A, except 15M long.
C	30	As item A, except class H-1 and 17M long.
D	120	As item C, except 18M long.
E	190	As item C, except 19M long.
F	340	As item C, except 20M long.
G	40	As item C, except 21M long.
H	20	As item F, class except class H-3
I	10	As item E, except class H-3.

3. Interested Eligible Bidders may obtain further information, from and inspect the bidding documents at the office of General Manager IRBID DISTRICT ELECTRICITY CO. LTD. P.O. Box (46) IRBID-JORDAN, TLX. 51528 KHRBGO JO.

4. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any Interested Eligible Bidders on submission of a written application to the above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of U.S. dollars (\$50) or JD equivalent.

5. Fixed price contract are required, and all bids must be accompanied by a security of not less than (3) per cent of the bid price and must be delivered to the above office on or before 1200 HRS on 25/2/1987.

6. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders representative who choose to attend at 1300 HRS on 25/2/1987 at the office of General Manager, Irbid District Electricity Co. LTD. P.O. Box (46) IRBID-JORDAN.

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NOTHING PERSONAL



Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema OPERA Tel: 675573

HIGHLANDER



Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema PLAZA Tel: 677420

THE MONEY PIT



Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema RAGHADAN Tel: 622198

VICTORY



Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 9:45

People Express disappears in reshuffle

NEW YORK (R) — Texas Air Tuesday announced the demise of People Express, which it took over less than two weeks ago, but said it would continue to offer low fares.

Texas Air Chairman Frank Lorenzo said People Express would be merged with another subsidiary, Denver-based Continental Airlines, on Feb. 1.

"This is the best news for consumers since deregulation," Mr. Lorenzo told a news conference. "Now more than ever, Continental remains committed to assuring customers the lowest possible fares."

Founded by Donald Burr, who once worked for Mr. Lorenzo, People Express broke ground in numerous ways, including its use

of non-union workers to do a variety of jobs instead of one specific task.

People offered low wages but made all employees stockholders. The airline kept fares low by selling tickets on board, charging for checked baggage and eliminating free meals.

The airline, through growth and mergers, was briefly one of the top 10 U.S. carriers.

But months after buying Frontier Airlines, People Express had to put it up for sale to raise much-needed cash and stop the severe drain of Frontier's heavy losses.

Analysts blamed People's demise on rapid expansion and its

move from fringe markets to the major routes. The traditional carriers with their large cash reserves could operate at a loss and drive out the upstart.

The People Express name has become less of an asset as complaints about its service have grown. The Department of Transport says it receives more complaints from passengers about People Express than any other carrier.

Texas Air, meanwhile, has grown from a small regional airline to become the nation's largest in just 15 years. With its wave of takeovers, Texas Air is now the parent company for 10 airlines.

Argentina and IMF reach agreement

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — Argentina will receive a stand-by loan of \$1.35 billion and an additional \$480 million compensation for export losses under a new accord with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) according to Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille.

Mr. Sourrouille told a news conference Monday the pact includes a special mechanism to increase the amount of credit should world market prices for the country's exports fall.

He said the 15-month accord cleared the way for final negotiations with commercial banks on a refinancing of the \$50 billion foreign debt, the third largest among developing countries.

Argentina is seeking more than

\$2 billion in fresh credits from creditor banks, who insist on IMF approval of a stand-by accord as a condition for refinancing.

The country's previous stand-by accord with the fund, which demands austerity measures as a condition for loans, expired in May.

The new pact was announced by Finance Secretary Mario Broderick, who said it included more than \$1.8 billion in credits. He gave no other details.

An economy ministry spokesman said Argentina also would receive, during 1987 and 1988, \$2 billion in loans from the World Bank for projects aimed at reforming the country's ailing economy.

The government said consumer

prices rose an average 81.9 per cent in 1986, the first year without triple-digit inflation since 1980 and the lowest annual total in 12 years.

Inflation for December was 4.7 per cent, the fifth straight month of decline, according to figures released by the economy ministry's statistics office. In November, prices rose an average 5.3 per cent.

Argentine officials are projecting 40 per cent inflation in 1987.

The 1986 total represents a sharp decline from record levels during the two previous years. Inflation was 385.4 per cent in 1985 and 688 per cent in 1984.

The lowest previous annual total was 40.1 per cent in 1974.

U.K. firm wins order from JPMC

LONDON (Agencies) — The British firm Ransomes and Rapier Plc is to supply a walking dragline for excavation work in one of Jordan's key export industries — phosphate mining.

The Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) has placed a £9 million contract with the company for a walking dragline model W2000.

This Ransomes and Rapier unit is destined for open cast phosphate mines at Al Hassa, 137 kilometres south of Amman, where a similar machine supplied by the U.K. company six years ago has consistently exceeded its performance targets.

The latest dragline will be delivered in kit form from the end of this year, and reassembled in Jordan by Ransomes and Rapier technicians.

Commenting on the contract, Mr. Derek Davies, managing director of the U.K. firm, said: "JPMC decided to buy our machine as we offered the best package and our equipment represented the best value for money."

Iraq reports new oil finds

NICOSIA (AP) — New, hitherto unexploited oilfields have been found in various parts of Iraq, the state-run Iraqi News Agency reported Tuesday.

The agency quoted an undersecretary at the oil ministry, Mr. Issam Abdul Rahim, as saying the new oil would boost Iraq's reserves considerably above the present level of 72 billion barrels.

Mr. Abdul Rahim said the state-owned Iraqi National Oil Company would complete drilling work next year at some of the sites, but gave no estimate when the fields would be commercially viable.

He gave no further details. Mr. Abdul Rahim confirmed previous reports that by mid-1987, the second phase of an Iraq-Turkey pipeline would be put into operation, bringing the pipeline's capacity to 1.5 million barrels a day.

Last week, the Middle East Economic Survey said the volume of oil shipped from Iraq through another pipeline, to the Saudi Arabian port of Yanbu, would increase from 100,000 to 250,000 barrels this month and to 300,000 next month.

By then, Iraq's oil output will be around two million barrels a day, much higher than the 1.46 million quota awarded by OPEC, the world oil group, the Nicosia-based weekly newsletter said.

Meanwhile, Iraq has been granted an additional \$376 million in short-term credit guarantees to buy U.S. Agricultural Department announced Monday.

Mr. Melvin Sims, general sales manager for the department's foreign agricultural services, said the increase raised Iraq's total credit line to \$562 million in the fiscal year that began last Oct. 1.

Israel devalues shekel, slashes budget and cuts food subsidies

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel devalued its shekel by 9.75 per cent against the dollar Tuesday saying it was part of a reform plan to stimulate exports and ending a decade of economic stagnation.

Bank of Israel Governor Michael Bruno announced the exchange rate had been changed to 1.64 shekels for \$1 from \$1.48 shekels. It was the first devaluation since Israel launched an austerity drive 18 months ago.

He said the move was necessary to help industrialists offset rising costs from increased salaries under a package deal with the powerful Histadrut labour federation.

The new reform programme, adopted after a cabinet session which lasted into the early morning hours, also includes a substantial budget cut and an increase in the price of basic foodstuffs.

The new steps were necessitated by a drop in Israel's exports by 10 per cent a month for the last three months of 1986, a recent surge of imports and wage hikes which appeared in danger of eroding the government's austerity programme.

Speculation about the impending new plan hiked the price of the black market dollar by about 10 per cent this week, led to a run on luxury items and prompted restaurateurs and other businessmen to boost their prices by 10 to 20 per cent.

When the plan was finally announced, it included a cut of government subsidies which meant a 14 per cent increase in the price of milk, up to 0.88 shekels a litre (about 50 cents a quart) and a 15 per cent increase in the price of white bread to 0.52 shekels (35 cents) a loaf.

Economists projected the devaluation would lead to a five to six per cent increase of other

items, which would hurt low- and middle-income earners and would counter the benefits of a tax drop.

The price hikes could undo the benefits of the austerity programme which brought inflation down from 445 per cent in 1984 to a projected annual rate of 20 per cent in 1986.

Economics Professor Michael Peri of Tel Aviv University predicted the changes might bring a return to the days of hyper-inflation when Israelis rushed to the bank every morning to deposit their shekels before they were devalued and speculated in an active dollar-linked black market.

"Everything depends on the behaviour of the public, the main partner in every economic programme, and this programme undermined the public's peace of mind," he said on Israel Army Radio.

But Bruno said "the prices are being increased one time only and will not renew the inflationary spiral."

Dov Lautman, head of the manufacturers' association, expressed hope that "the programme would provide the

right answer to the main problem of our industry's competition capability abroad while keeping the (economic) stability."

The tax reform too, is designed to increase productivity by providing Israeli workers with incentive. The maximum tax ceiling was dropped from 60 to 48 per cent, and the minimum from 25 to 20 per cent.

"The tax reform is the most substantial, almost revolutionary reform, nobody dreamed of dropping the tax ceiling to 48 per cent," said Finance Minister Moshe Nissim.

The government approved a cut of 400 million shekels (\$250 million) in the country's \$20.3 billion budget, but left the defence budget of about \$5 billion intact.

Twelve cabinet ministers including Peri, voted for the budget cut, with nine ministers headed by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir voting to cut the defence budget as well.

In a bid to control wage increases, the government decided to postpone for two months payments of cost of living allowances, and then cut them by 2.7 per cent.

Trading in Saudi Arabian shares surges

JEDDAH (R) — Trading in Saudi Arabian shares has suddenly taken off after more than two years of decline, sparking hopes that prices are set to rise and the kingdom's economy may be about to pick up.

OPEC's new-found determination to push world oil prices higher, coupled with news of Saudi Arabia's relatively free-spending 1987 budget, has turned the tide, bankers say.

In addition, hopes are high that the kingdom's monetary authorities could soon unveil proposals to boost share trading and set up a first fully-fledged

stock exchange in Riyadh. One stock trader said: "Everything indicates the market has bottomed out."

Another said: "The market is markedly up. We are doing 10 times the amount of a few months ago. Last week we did more business in one day than in a month a couple of years ago."

Latest statistics from the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency, the kingdom's central bank, show stock deals worth 37.3 million riyals (\$9.9 million) were concluded in the week ending Jan. 8.

In November, before OPEC's

new price and production pact and the Saudi budget, weekly turnover averaged only three to four million riyals (\$800,000 to \$1.1 million).

The Saudi stock market, where the shares of about 46 companies and banks are actively traded, underwent a major upheaval at the end of 1984 when the right to deal was taken away from private brokers.

Instead, share trading was put in the hands of the kingdom's 11 commercial banks.

But restrictions, coupled with

recession, led to a sharp drop in the volume of trading and prices had been sliding steadily.

Bankers now hope that some of the restrictions on trading will be lifted, while the business outlook could brighten up as a result of the newly announced 1987 budget which targets spending at a far higher than expected 170 billion riyals (\$45.3 billion).

Bankers said share prices appeared to have bottomed out and some of the kingdom's major banks had seen their stock rise by more than 25 per cent since October last year.

Oil prices rise sharply as Europe freezes

NEW YORK (AP) — Oil prices jumped above \$19 a barrel Monday for the first time in nearly a year, bolstered by a cold wave that gripped Europe with record low temperatures.

Traders said prices also were bolstered to a lesser extent by the latest escalation of the war between Iran and Iraq.

In trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange, the February contract for West Texas Intermediate, the U.S. benchmark crude oil, jumped 24 cents a barrel to \$19.01 from Friday's closing level of \$18.77. It was the highest closing price on the exchange since Jan. 30, 1986.

Heating oil for February delivery increased 1.65 cents a gallon to \$4.66 cents a gallon from \$3.01 cents, while unleaded gasoline rose just under half a cent to 52.35 cents a gallon from 51.87 cents. There are 42 gallons in a barrel and one gallon equals 3.8 litres.

Prices had already been rising since late December, when oil ministers of the 13-nation

Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) agreed to cut their overall production by 7.6 per cent during the first half of 1987 and to set an average price of \$18 a barrel.

In the weeks before the meeting, crude had been trading at levels between \$14 and \$16 per barrel.

On Monday, analysts said traders bid up prices as a result of the cold weather that has gripped Europe for three days.

"The demand there is pushing up the crude market," said Mr. Stephen McKiernan, the president of McKiernan and Co., which trades oil futures on the mercantile exchange.

Mr. Peter Beutel, assistant director of the energy group at Elders Futures Inc., said there was concern in Western Europe that the freezing weather could block the movement of heating oil on the Rhine River.

In addition, most of the heating oil currently available in Europe is oil from the Soviet Union that

takes on a thick, mud-like consistency in cold weather and must be heated in order to be poured, he said.

Mr. Beutel said that because of the problems in Europe, heating oil prices are about 15 cents a gallon higher in north west Europe than in the U.S. Gulf coast area, encouraging traders to divert

some of the U.S. product to Europe.

Those diversions could strain heating oil supplies in this country in the coming weeks, he suggested.

As a result, Mr. Beutel and other observers expect oil prices to remain strong for several weeks at least.

Dollar nosedives again

LONDON (R) — The dollar took another nosedive on the world's foreign exchange Tuesday despite huge purchases by the Japanese central bank to try to prop it up.

Fast-selling of the dollar carried on when European dealers got to their desks and they took the dollar down to early afternoon lows of 187 marks and 155.25 yen.

Later in edged up a little, to 1.8740 marks and 155.60 yen. But it had closed in New York Monday night at 1.8960 marks and 157.55 yen.

Fearful of the impact on Japan's exports of an appreciating yen, the Bank of Japan dug into its coffers. Dealers estimated it bought \$2.5 billion, a record single day's purchase.

But the dollar slide carried on. The market decided that a sluggish U.S. economy and yawning trade deficit required that it should weaken. Speculative investment money went into the yen and West Germany's mark.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4895/4905	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3660/65	Canadian dollars
	1.8820/30	West German marks
	2.1255/65	Dutch guilders
	1.5750/60	Swiss francs
	39.00/10	Belgian francs
	6.2875/2925	French francs
	1339/1340	Italian lire
	155.55/65	Japanese yen
	6.6700/50	Swedish crowns
	7.2500/50	Norwegian crowns
	7.1675/1725	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	408.30/408.80	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices retreated from Tuesday afternoon's record levels, with the FTSE 100 at 1530 GMT standing 12.8 higher at 1,768.4 after the record high of 1,774.4 at 1427 GMT. Dealers said light profit taking and the lower opening on Wall Street Tuesday started the fall back.

Equities gained strongly during the session on the continuing record breaking run on Wall Street and had been led higher by the gains in oil shares and crude prices.

Although Wall Street later turned narrowly mixed dealers said shares were beginning to look soft as buyers consolidated gains rather than liquidate existing positions.

Although demand from the bull market on Wall Street had found its way into blue chip issues, with ICI 20p up at 1.185 after 1.190. Dealers said ICI was underpinned by the pound's weakness against the mark which was helping export potential.

Other shares to attract U.S. buying interest included Beecham up 10p at 467 and Reuters 11p higher at 590.

Oil shares succumbed to the profit-taking seen throughout the market but remained firmly underpinned by the current freezing weather throughout Europe. BP has 16p higher, standing at 784 in late business. British Gas rose 2 1/2p to 69 1/2 on volume of 11.3 million shares.

Horoscope not received

THE Daily Crossword by Frank R. Jackson

ACROSS

- Punching tools
- Forbid
- London baby's
- buggy
- blatant canoe
- Chopin
- speciality
- Gambling town
- Thorn out by the
- Terminal
- Understanding
- Adjective
- Mouthful: Lat.
- Brings up
- Advantageous position
- Favor
- It-fated lover
- Tutor's item
- Prepositional
- Gr. letter
- Wayfarer's
- harvest
- Keg: abbr.
- testicle
- legal action
- Keep the — (leave concealed)
- Sold
- Season's
- opening words
- Flavoring herb
- It's
- Adjective
- Garden tool
- Gaining or
- Gentle
- Harvest: e.g.
- Genuine
- Courage
- Peasantry poem
- High
- Ancient
- Perseus
- Squash

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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS

- Church
- Small bird
- Burden
- Meat
- Inflated a face
- Jackpot type
- Roll
- Fruit drink
- Legal thing
- Enigmas
- Tear apart
- Before: pref.
- Rock plant
- Cumso
- Clergyman
- Me
- Grass
- Royal for
- Arab girl
- Whatever is
- Really angry
- Attain: verb
- Newlyweds
- Monetary fund
- Owner's locale
- Clashed
- Mans or Photo
- Op. definite
- Following along
- Eng. word
- Small island
- Glutton
- Young pigs
- Pitcher type
- Section
- Electrical
- Close lightly
- In this place
- Adjective
- recess
- Gen for cannon
- Reproductive
- Electrical measurement
- Charge
- Youngster
- Peripatet

Peanuts

NO, I'VE NEVER RUN WITH THE HOUNDS... MY DAD DID, THOUGH.

HE SAID HE FELL IN A HOLE, RAN INTO A TREE, WAS STEPPED ON BY A HORSE AND BITTEN BY A FOX!

I SAID TO HIM, "THAT MUST HAVE BEEN A LONG DAY."

HE SAID, "NO, THAT ALL HAPPENED IN THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES!"

Mutt 'n' Jeff

HEM—THAT KID HAS NO MANNERS! HE LET A WOMAN STAND ON A CROWNED BUS!

BOY! I'LL GIVE YOU A QUARTER FOR YOUR SEAT!

OH, NO! YOU TAKE IT!

NO! IT'S FOR YOU! MADAM! I WANT TO GIVE THIS KID A LESSON IN MANNERS!

RANDY, THANK THE NICE MAN FOR HIS QUARTER!

I ALREADY DID, MOM!

Andy Capp

GRRR!

THERE'S SEVERAL WAYS OF ZAPPING UP TO ONE OF HIS SACKS. ALL OF THEM INVOLVE THE USE OF A RICK HANDLE OR A BASEBALL BAT.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

COMPLETE PHONE CENTER

"This cordless phone leaves a trail of bread crumbs so you can remember where you left it."

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LITTE

ITTYD

DARZIL

OPEATT

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: A

Yesterday's Jumbles: FETCH LISLE WALLOP NATURE

Answer: What that prize-winning dog was—A SHOW "ARF!"

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (R) — Several hundred Muslim fundamentalist students have ransacked the offices of a local newspaper for reproducing a 16th-century European painting showing nude bodies, staff at the newspaper said. The students damaged furniture, telephones, typewriters and teleprinters at the Frontier Post, the biggest English-language daily of Peshawar, north-west Pakistan's main city. Earlier the fundamentalists marched to the newspaper offices chanting slogans and carrying placards accusing the newspaper of obscenity. The complaints were against a reproduction of "Adam and Eve," a painting by the German painter Lucas Cranach (1472-1553) illustrating an article on science and religion in the Post's Friday supplement last week. The picture shows a couple, naked except for sprays of leaves hiding their genitals, standing under an apple tree surrounded by wild beasts.